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Simon Directs Mint:

Replace Bicentennial Designs in 1977

Seth G. Huntington's Bicentennial design will not appear on half dollars struck after 1976.

The special Bicentennial reverse designs on the quarter, half dollar and Eisenhower dollar will not be used on 1977-dated coins, according to a directive to the Mint from Secretary of the Treasury, William E. Simon. The reverse of the three coins will feature the eagle motifs used before the Bicentennial change was made in 1975.

The Secretary's directive to revert to the eagle designs which last appeared in 1974 follows the tradition set in 1792 of having an eagle on certain of the nation's coins. In 1792, an Act of Congress created the Mint and mandated that "upon the reverse of each of the gold and silver coins, there shall be the figure or representation of an eagle."

The reverses of the 1976-dated 25¢, 50¢, and $1 Bicentennial coins were each selected in a coin design competition sponsored by the Treasury Department. The three winning designs were announced in March, 1974. The winning designs were among almost 1,000 entries judged by a panel of eminent sculptors, artists and public officials. A $5000 award was presented to the three finalists: Jack L. Ahr (quarter), Seth G. Huntington (half dollar) and Dennis R. Williams (designer of the Bicentennial Eisenhower dollar reverse).

When 1977-dated coins appear in local banks, they will no longer feature the Bicentennial motifs. Instead, the Washington quarter will feature the spread-winged eagle standing on a shaft of arrows. The Kennedy half dollar will show the Presidential Coat of Arms in place of Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell/Moon design on the Eisenhower dollar will revert to the Apollo II insignia, depicting a bald eagle landing on the moon.

In discussing the design changes for 1977, Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint, said, "For the first time in history, the Mint changed the designs of circulating coins in honor of an anniversary of American Independence, and the ending of production of these historically significant coins brings to a close one of the most important changes and production feats ever attempted by the Mint.

"These coins are destined to become treasured keepsakes of the Bicentennial, so I urge all Americans to ask for them at their local banks while they are still readily available."

IN THIS ISSUE

Emergency Federal Reserve Notes of 1933, Ulysses S. Grant, Napoleon Bonaparte, the Stella, Belgian Architectural Medals, Calvin Coolidge and the "unwritten law" and John Sinnock.

a message from the President

Max J. Humbert

Jamaica has just announced a currency banknote program which I believe will make a tremendous impact on numismatics. They are offering a currency banknote set consisting of one of each denomination of the currency currently in circulation. These have special serial numbers on them and each denomination in the set has matching serial numbers. The entire issue is limited to 5,000 sets, which is extremely small by any comparison. Just to give you an indication of how limited this issue is, Paramount currently has approximately 250,000 customers on its mailing list, which includes our subsidiaries. Therefore, only one of every 50 customers will be able to obtain one of these banknote sets. The banknotes are exactly the same as those in circulation and are full legal tender. I believe this will be an extremely popular offering and no doubt will be the forerunner of other banknote programs. There are so many firsts related to this offering that I could not describe them all. However, the brochures that will be sent to most of you will give a full description.

In view of the fact that this is the first banknote set being offered, it no doubt will be the bench mark for all future banknote sets that may appear on the market. Therefore, I strongly urge you to give close attention to the brochure when it is received and act promptly if you are interested in participating in an entirely new concept of collecting.

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OUR LOVELY "STELLA"

All Stellas have this common reverse, designed by Charles E. Barber. Stellas weigh approximately 108 grains and are 22 millimeters in diameter, slightly larger than a Jefferson nickel.

George T. Morgan designed the Coiled Hair Stella, which was struck as a Pattern in 1879 and 1880. Only ten of each date were struck.

Charles Barber designed the Flowing Hair Stella. Struck only in 1879 and 1880, the Stella was supposed to be an international coin. All Stellas are Pattern coins and their mintages are tiny. Only 415 1879 and 15 1880 Flowing Hair Stellas were struck.

Fair of face, hair flowing or coiled, our lovely "Stella" reigns supreme, adding untold dimension to this country's history of gold coinage, and to any collection she graces.

It is perhaps strangest of all our coin denominations; and perhaps stranger still is the fact that this beautiful Pattern $4.00 gold piece generated such great popularity right from the start. From its very inception there has been considerable demand for this odd denomination coin despite the fact that there are Patterns of practically all United States coins, and gold collectors everywhere seem to be in accord on one thing: No gold collection is truly exceptional or complete unless it contains the lovely "Stella".

Our Minister to Austria, the Honorable John A. Klasson, spawned the idea that the world needed an international coin series based on the metric system; so two coins were to start off the series – the 20¢ piece and the $4.00 gold piece. This project, however, proved to be too ambitious and soon fell by the wayside. The 20¢ piece survived, going into circulation, but for only a short time. The $4.00 gold piece fell short of actual mint production and never did go into circulation, in spite of the fact that the whole idea of a world coinage system had many followers.

There are two distinct types of the "Stella", issued only two years, 1879-1880: the Flowing Hair type, designed by Barber, and the Coiled Hair variety designed by Morgan. Both are Pattern coins.

Fifteen sets were struck in 1879, and Congressmen were the first to buy these, paying $6.50 per set. A year later, Congress ordered additional sets to be made, so the old dies were once more reactivated for the striking of 400 extra sets. However, the demand, having once been filled, fell far short of the supply and with many sets left over, some of them were offered to collectors for $15. Just how many went to individuals is not known, but it had to be a minimal amount since the "Stellas" available today are, indeed, limited.

While the word "sets" was used when describing the offerings made to Congressmen in 1879 and 1880, it is believed that only one "Stella" was offered in each "packette". This would appear to be substantiated by the fact that the Coiled Hair creation of George Morgan is in very short supply and not too often seen, either singly or in any gold displays. They do, however, bring record prices whenever they come on the market.

One of the basic features of most Pattern coins is that they are generally the object of some experimentation by striking them in various metals such as copper and aluminum. Such pieces are obviously sold far under the price of the precious gold patterns. The "Stellas" were struck in gold, aluminum, copper and white metal.

There are known to be at least five different designs, two of them being varieties of the Barber 1879 coins.

It was through the efforts, the behind-the-scenes maneuvering, of Dr. W. W. Hubbell, that the "Stella" finally claimed acceptance by Congress. He was the originator of Goloid, a combination of gold and silver, that barely missed becoming the metal used for United States coin manufacture. However, when it was discovered that its wearing qualities fell far short of its expectancy, Goloid was bypassed.

Our lovely "Stella" never made it to the production line. It never made circulation. It has, instead, remained just a Pattern coin; yet it is considered by all collectors as the "pot of gold found behind every gold collector's mental rainbow".

Courtesy: *Coin World Library*

NEW DIMENSIONS:
The Architectural Medals of Jacques Wiener

by Carl W. A. Carlson, N.L.G.

Man, the Builder, has sought for thousands of years to commemorate and honor his gods, his state, and himself in the temples, theaters, and other structures he has erected. By the 2nd Century B.C., Man, the Engraver, was commemorating these structures on coins. Under the Romans, not only temples but also the victory monuments of the Emperors were presented on the coinage to the people. However, perspective had not been conquered in treating buildings on the limited scope of a coin (with a few rare exceptions, mostly presented as low aerial views), and the normal presentation was a facing view of the front of the structure. At the same time, the difficulties associated with striking restricted the degree of relief which could be used: if too high a relief were used for the building, the center of the reverse would not show up properly. Similarly, perspective was hard to employ properly from an artistic standpoint without high relief – the results of low relief were disappointing, which may have led the Greek artists to their general avoidance of architectural types.

By the early 19th Century several technological breakthroughs had paved the way to new approaches in handling these subjects: better die metals, collars for the dies, and high-power steam presses, among others. Relief remained the primary difficulty except in medals which had nothing but lettering on one side; even on those the height of the relief had to be controlled carefully. Thicker planchets, capable of being worked on the new presses, formed part of the answer since they provided more metal to flow into the high points of the dies, but it was still extremely difficult and costly to strike both sides in proper relief. Some new approach to the problem was required.

The Basilica of St. Mark in Venice, Italy. Notice the exceptional depth and detail.

In 1845 the spark was struck: Jacques Wiener, a young medalist in Brussels, born in Germany of Hungarian parents and educated in his trade in Paris, conceived the idea of presenting the outside of a building on one face of the medal and the *inside* on the other, both done in perspective. The outside face, as was normal, would appear in raised relief as it should; Wiener was the first to take advantage of the fact that the inside of a building has *incuse* perspective, that is, the nearest parts of the inside will be at the sides of the medal and the farthest part will be depressed in the center. By careful design, Wiener arranged his highest relief points on the obverse to be opposite the deepest incuse parts of the reverse, thus assuring proper metal flow into all parts of both dies. The principle was really the oldest in numismatics, since the earliest Greek issues had a normal die on the obverse but were struck with a narrow punch for a reverse, the narrow punch forcing the metal into the obverse die while creating an incuse reverse. However, none had even tried to use this technique for handling architectural themes.

Wiener's rendition of the nave of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, England.

Wiener began with a series of ten medals depicting famous churches of Belgium, working out the problems of handling his new method as he went. He moved from churches of Belgium to Belgian prisons, town halls, and other public buildings, working at times in conjunction with his younger brothers Charles and Leopold Wiener, excellent medalists in their own right whom he had trained. Beginning with a couple of his Belgian church series, Wiener undertook around 1848 the production of a series of 50 of the outstanding monuments of Europe on medals, though he only managed to complete 41 of them due to other commitments (such as the design and engraving of the first postage stamps of Belgium and the production of a vast flood of medals on persons and events, mostly by request and on contract). He did, however, manage to cover quite a bit of territory in his selection of monuments: two in Belgium, eight in France, one in Holland, five in England, one in Russia, seven in Italy, one in Norway, four in Spain or Portugal, one in Turkey, and eleven in Germany. Mostly struck in copper, they generally measure 60 mm in diameter and are about 6 mm thick.

Though popular with specialists and students of medallic art in its finest form, these architectural types by Wiener yet remain relatively inexpensive due to lack of general knowledge concerning them. It is still possible to acquire AU specimens of many of them for little more than $35 each, at least the more common ones. Total production of the different types is not known, but it seems unlikely that die life with such relief could have been much more than one or two thousand pieces of each type. These medals represent the very finest skill in architectural die cutting and designing in Europe and are extremely handsome. Any single specimen is a delight in itself; the full series need not be acquired to enjoy those which one had managed to obtain. They are not all that frequently offered, but one or another can often be found in a price list or at a dealer's table at conventions – they are well worth the effort to find. It is probable that not more than a dozen collections in the world today have complete sets of all 41 monuments, but not all are missing the same ones.

In the U.S., A.C. Paquet used Weiner's idea to produce a medal on the dedication of the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul in Philadelphia. The medal is shown here full size – 80 millimeters.

Only once does this medallic technique of Wiener's seem to have been attempted in America: in 1864, A. C. Paquet (known from his Patterns as well as the 1861 $20 types) was commissioned to produce a medal on the dedication of the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul in Philadelphia, and he chose to try this new method (specimens must have been available in America by then). The result was described by S. H. Chapman, one of our foremost numismatists and auction cataloguers from the 1880's until the late 1920's, as the finest piece of die-cutting ever done in America. His medal exists in copper and in tin (or white metal), the latter much rarer than the former. It is probably the largest such piece ever produced, measuring 80 mm in diameter and being almost 10 mm thick. This is a real treasure of American medallic art and should be snapped up by anyone who finds one.

The series of Wiener medals is of importance in art history not just because of the quality of the medals but also because many of the monuments he depicted have perished in the past century of European warfare or have had to be extensively remodelled. These medals provide a permanent record of the architectural achievements of earlier ages which can not be duplicated in any other medium, and, as such, are part of the heritage of Western Civilization.

Proof 40% Silver 1970-S Halves –By The Roll

1970 was a transitional year for the Kennedy Half Dollar. It was the last year all were struck with planchets containing 40% silver. Strangely enough, none of the half dollars dated 1970 were put into circulation!

All the San Francisco specimens were placed in Proof Sets (2.6 million) while the 1970-D halves (2.1 million) were issued only in government issued Mint sets. Philadelphia did not strike half dollars dated 1970. So it's obvious, 1970 was definitely a "lean year" for half dollars.

We have a few dozen rolls of 1970-S Proof Half Dollars (coins taken from proof sets) for sale at this time. At $139 per roll (less than $7 per coin), these are certainly a real value!

1970-S Kennedy Half Dollars, Proof, Roll of 20 ..... **$139.00**

NOTE: Minimum order is one roll of 20 coins.

Rare United States Currency

The Panic of '33

Eighth of a Series by Nicholas Bruyere

Figure 1 Thousands of National Banks were permitted to issue their own federally-backed paper money until 1935. These "National Currency" notes bear the name of the bank, its charter number (12587 in this case) and signatures of the bank's president and cashier.

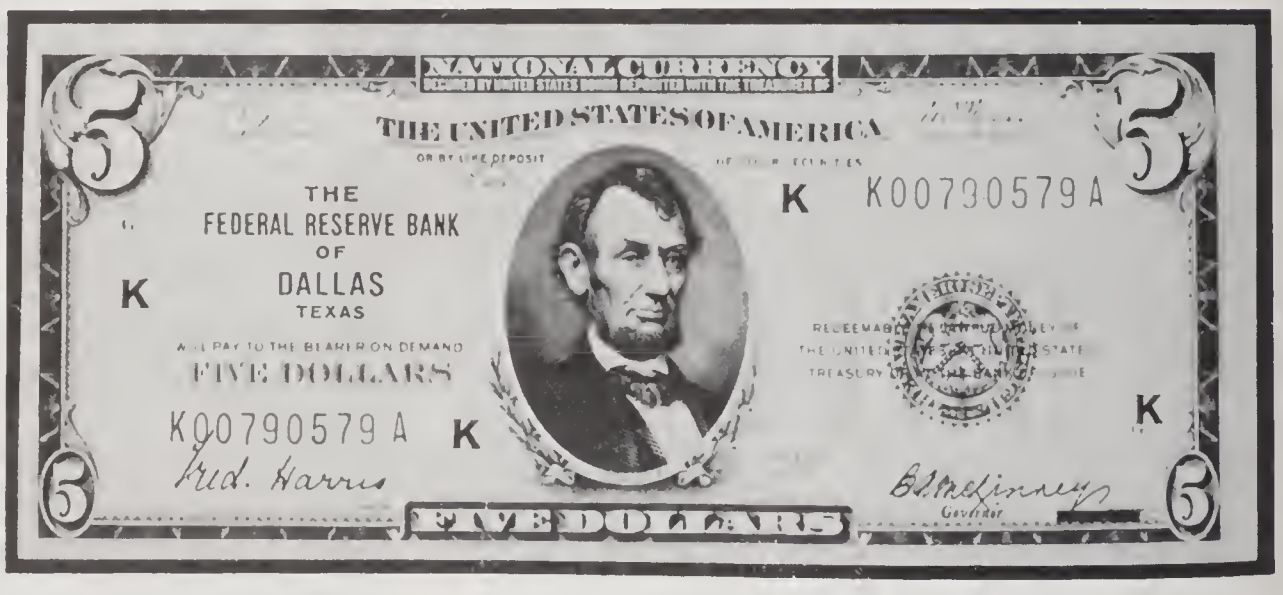


Figure 2 Federal Reserve Bank Notes (FRBN's) were issued for only two years as an emergency measure, using the printing plates of the National Bank note issues. Today they are scarce in uncirculated (new) condition.

In 1933 a man could rent an apartment for $20.00, but $20.00 was hard to come by. It was the bottom of the Great Depression, and the American people were paying the penalty of an inflated economy that came crashing down.

Corporate stocks were a dime a dozen. Hard cash was in short supply – no-one had any! Real estate values plummeted. Between the stock market, real estate and tight money, the financial institutions were trembling in fear. *Thousands* of banks were collapsing. Banks in California alone were so shaky that federal bankruptcy officials could not understand how any of them managed to keep their doors open.

It was in this panic-stricken atmosphere that President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt entered office. Fortunately for our country, FDR was a man of *action.* Five days after his inauguration Congress passed his *Emergency Banking Act.*

National Banks were failing daily while depositors were withdrawing their money. Secure Federal Reserve Bank Notes were in strong demand. All National Banks were authorized, if they wished, to issue their own "National Currency" under federal government supervision (figure 1). With the onset of Depression, many people had cashed in these notes for silver, gold or Federal Reserve Notes.

President Roosevelt's *Emergency Banking Act* of 1933 brought immediate and sweeping measures of control. It brought the "Bank Holiday" of 1933. Every National Bank in the United States was ordered closed for three days. Federal bank examiners swept house, permanently closing every bank found insolvent. All the banks that survived were given new licenses, and every account in those banks was insured for up to $10,000 by the newly-created Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, FDIC.

The day after the Bank Holiday, most of the people who had lined up to withdraw their money were back in line to deposit it again. People had faith in Roosevelt. The Bank Holiday closed down 25% of all the National Banks, but the wonder is that 75% survived!

The *Emergency Banking Act* also stopped payments in gold. This halted the flow of gold out of the U.S. The *Gold Reserve Act* made gold illegal for Americans to own, and devalued the dollar. Before the Act, an ounce of gold was worth $20.67. After devaluation an ounce of gold was worth $35.00. This allowed the government to increase the money supply by almost 70% against the gold supply.

EMERGENCY NOTES. Now the economic "pump" could be primed with a flow of new cash to stimulate the economy. That meant more money for companies to hire and pay employees; more money in the hands of the working man to buy goods; more money for the banks to lend.

A tremendous demand to print more Federal Reserve Bank Notes (FRBN's) was placed on the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. In haste, new FRBN's were made using the printing plates for the old National Bank notes (figure 2). Signatures of the Federal Reserve's Cashier and Governor were *overprinted* on the note along with a black bar to cover up the old "PRESIDENT" designation. The name of the particular Federal Reserve Bank was printed on the left side, and the District Letter for the bank was printed four times (There are 12 Federal Reserve Banks. Each has an identifying letter and number. Boston is 1-A, New York is 2-B, etc. Dallas is 11-K). The Treasury Seal and serial numbers are brown, unlike anything you will see on today's paper money. The *top* of the note bears the names of the Register of the Treasury and U.S. Treasurer, E. E. Jones and W. O. Woods.

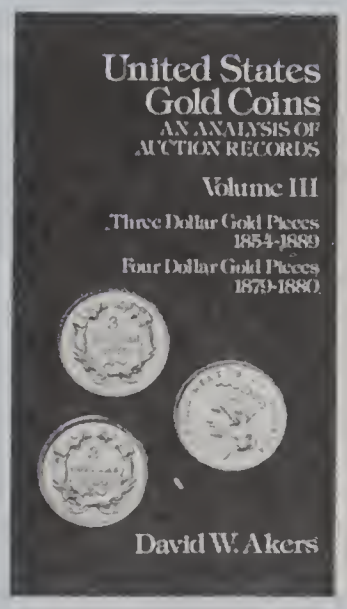
The notes proved successful and were only needed for two years. Today they are seldom seen in choice condition. Neil Shafer comments in his *Guide Book of Modern United States Currency* that "In new condition [1929 Brown Seal] Federal Reserve Bank Notes have become very scarce."

The $5 Federal Reserve Bank Note, illustrated in figure 2, is available to you from Paramount in crisp new, Uncirculated condition. With a catalogue value of $80.00 in Friedberg's Standard Catalogue, these are available to Paramount customers for $68.50 each. Or you can order three notes for $195.00 and a Deluxe Paramount Currency Album will be included *at no extra charge!*

To order, just use the order form envelope in this issue of the *Journal* and ask for the "$5.00 1929 FRBN, Crisp New", and be sure to specify whether you desire one note at $68.50 or three for $195.00.

United States $3 and $4 Gold Pieces

by David W. Akers



THREE DOLLAR GOLD

Volume III in our series on United States gold coins is just off the press! Like the widely acclaimed Volume I (Gold Dollars) and Volume II (Quarter Eagles), this new reference devotes at least an entire page to every date and mintmark in the $3 and $4 gold series.

Here are a few highlights you'll enjoy with this new hardbound book:

- Clear, enlarged photographs of every date and mint $3 and $4 coin including the unique 1870-S $3 in the Eliasberg Collection.
- Mintage figures.
- Auction records from 1921 to date showing which coins (and in what conditions) have appeared — how often they have appeared — in what sales they appeared (including dates of sales) and more!
- Comments are given for every date. For $3 gold pieces from 1867 to 1889 specific information is given so even the novice will be able to differentiate between Proof and first strike Uncirculated coins. This is the first time this information has been published in such detail.
- Information showing overrated and underrated dates is given as compiled from frequency of appearance tables compiled from auctions since 1921.

Volume III is only $12.50 postpaid. Even if you don't collect $3 or $4 gold pieces, we think you'll find this book an informative and essential addition to your personal numismatic library.

United States Gold Coins, Three Dollar Gold Pieces 1854-1889, Four Dollar Gold Pieces 1879-1880, by David W. Akers **$12.50**

OUR COMMEMORATIVE COINS

Eighth in a Series
by Helen Price

No man ever sat a horse with greater aplomb than Ulysses Grant. His love and understanding of horses was an obsession that rooted itself in early childhood.

Ulysses, at seventeen, was a good-looking but gawky country boy, very shy and slow with conversation. Social gatherings held no interest for him; he preferred the company of his horses for they gave him a satisfaction which he could not find among his peers due to his awkwardness and lack of bright answers.

His deep aversion to the killing of any animal was just one in a string of lifelong obsessions of this powerful and complex man.

In 1836 when he was fourteen years old, his father, who operated a large tannery in Georgetown, Ohio, asked Ulysses to help out in the beam-room. He objected violently to working in the tannery, for each time he did so he felt a repugnance to working with the skins of dead animals. Jesse Grant, despite a grimness and argumentive disposition, was an understanding parent, so he laid his hand on his son's shoulder. "My son, I don't want you to work at it now if you don't like it, and don't mean to stick to it. I want you to work at whatever you like and intend to follow. Now, what do you think you would like?" After a moment's pause, Ulysses replied, "I'd like to be a farmer, or a down-the-river trader, or get an education."

The elder Grant thought he might be able to get Ulysses an appointment as a Cadet at the Military Academy at West Point. "How would you like that?" he asked. "First-rate," the young boy replied.

To prepare him for entry into military training, his father sent him to an "Institute" in Ripley, just ten miles away, where his career as a student was as blank as those at previous schools. He did, however, eventually enter West Point though he rebelled secretly inside at becoming a soldier. The shadow of meeting so many strangers, the learned professors, other cadets, lay heavily across his path and made him fearful. The Adjutant's Registry, however, shows that Ulysses Grant registered at West Point on May 29, 1839.

His entire military career was governed by the kind of mind that can take a large problem and turn it into a small one simply by erasing any extraneous and unnecessary complications. Badeau, a long-time member of Grant's staff, wrote of his campaigns: "All his military greatness came of the plainest possible qualities, developed to an outstanding degree . . ."

Grant, at West Point, was a below-average Cadet in conduct, being 156th among a total of 223 cadets in the Corps. He was, above all, lazy. And untidy. Many were the demerits earned for sloppy dressing, spots on his clothes, a dirty gun. He was habitually late for roll calls – or didn't show at all. While he never did anything outright offensive, he was exceptionally quiet, keeping mostly to himself. If Grant's days at West Point were the most trying days of his life – as he later stated they were – he did have one claim to fame: he was the best horseman in the Corps of Cadets. And a good mathematician. All of which boded well in his Mexican campaigns in 1847. He had taken to heavy drinking about this time and it was this weakness that kept him from rising to higher rank, causing him to resign his Captaincy in 1854, only to be recalled a few years later.

The Civil War was the instrument that saved Grant from total obscurity as he went from one victory to another, a dominant none-too-popular man with his soldiers who seldom saw their silent, slovenly dressed Colonel. Victories at Fort Donnelson and Vicksburg catapulted him to national fame, and he became head of all the Union Armies. In 1866, Congress made him a full general, the first full general since Washington.

After his successes in the military campaigns of the Civil War, Grant was easily elected President of the United States for two terms on the Republican ticket. Only 4,256 Grant half dollars were struck with a star on the obverse, while 67,405 without star (shown above) were minted. The coin was designed by Laura Gardin Fraser, wife of James Earle Fraser, designer of our Buffalo nickel.

The growth of the value of 1922 Grant commemorative half dollars can be seen from this chart:

Year	With Star	Without Star
1952	$60-$71	$3.75-$4.25
1962	$121-$133	$13-$15
1972	$128-$135	$26-$30
1976	$550-$650	$65-$80

In 1872, on the basis of his military reputation, he was elected President. It was a presidency rife with corruption, brought on by railroad bribery and a whisky ring involving his personal secretary. Grant himself was in no way implicated. Four years later he was re-elected to a second term.

In 1880, at a time when Grant came close to being nominated for a third term, he suddenly lost every penny he had in a New York brokerage business. His business acumen, sadly lacking from the very beginning, had not improved with the years. Hard on the heels of that misfortune, he soon lay dying of cancer while at the same time pushing hard to finish his book, *Personal Memoirs.* It is considered a military classic.

His death occurred at his home in Saratoga on July 23, 1885, just four days after the manuscript was completed.

Grant, as President, was out of his element. It should never have been.

The Grant Memorial Half Dollar was struck in 1922 to commemorate the Centenary of his birth. The obverse shows the bust of Ulysses S. Grant in army uniform, with the dates 1822 and 1922 below. The house where he was born, fence in front, trees at sides, is shown on the reverse.

Two varieties were struck, with star and without star. Of the two, those with star are the more rare.

The star coins were the first to be minted; and the star actually has no special significance other than the fact that two varieties were deemed desirable by the commission, "The Ulysses S. Grant Centenary Memorial Commission".

The star variety features a small five-pointed star incused in the right field of the obverse, and below the last A of AMERICA, above the N of GRANT.

"His entire military career was governed by the kind of mind that can take a large problem and turn it into a small one simply by erasing any extraneous and unnecessary complications."

At the outset, both varieties were sold for $1.00 each. Immediately before being withdrawn from sale by the Commission on January 1, 1923, those coins without star were offered for 75¢ each in lots of ten or more; and $1.50 each for the star variety.

Profits from the sale of these coins went toward erecting community buildings in Georgetown and Bethel, Ohio, and to construct a highway from New Richmond to Point Pleasant, Ohio. All were areas that figured prominently in Grant's boyhood.

A maximum of 250,000 pieces were authorized to be struck. The number of coins: 5,006 with star; 95,055 without star. Melted: 750 with star; 67,650 without star. Designer – Laura Gardin Fraser.

References: *Meet General Grant*, by W. E. Woodward
U.S. Commemorative Coinage, by A. Slabaugh

IT'S OFFICIAL!

No More Bicentennial Designs

That's right! Secretary of the Treasury William Simon has directed the Mint to stop coining quarters, halves and dollars with the Bicentennial designs. The 1977 coins will once again show eagles on the reverse. That makes the Bicentennial designs obsolete. And the change means complete sets of Bicentennial coinage may now be assembled for the future.

Now YOU can own one Bicentennial coin of each Mint, one of each denomination and in all conditions struck! And at less than $5 per coin. And each coin is carefully mounted in a deluxe Capital Plastics display. This complete Bicentennial set includes:

IKE DOLLAR
"S" Clad Proof
"S" 40% Silver Proof
"S" 40% Silver Uncirculated
"D" Choice Uncirculated
"P" Choice Uncirculated

KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR
"S" Clad Proof
"S" 40% Silver Proof
"S" 40% Silver Uncirculated
"D" Choice Uncirculated
"P" Choice Uncirculated

WASHINGTON QUARTER
"S" Clad Proof
"S" 40% Silver Proof
"S" 40% Silver Uncirculated
"D" Choice Uncirculated
"P" Choice Uncirculated

Your complete Bicentennial coin set is comprised of 15 coins, each hand selected from official U.S. Government Proof Sets, Uncirculated 40% silver sets and from sealed Mint bags.

You'll be proud to have this 15-coin set – and your family and friends will admire it too! Each set is delivered to you mounted in a deluxe Capital Plastics display – safe from fingerprints and mis-handling. In twenty years, you'll be glad you ordered this complete set – your children and grandchildren will too! Makes the perfect gift for the holidays.

Complete Bicentennial Coin Set, Includes all 15 Proof and Choice Uncirculated Coins, Mounted in a Capital Plastics Display **$69.50**

FROM ARTILLERY LIEUTENANT TO EMPEROR

It is doubtful whether any man in history has his life so faithfully recorded in Medals and coinage as Napoleon Bonaparte. The many Medals, not only of France but other countries as well, taken as a group constitute a surprisingly accurate record of the rise and fall of this commanding and influential ruler.

Napoleon was born in a small village, Ajaccio, on the Island of Corsica in 1769. He entered the military academy in Brienne as a young student and was found to do poorly in the subjects of literature and Latin. He did, however, plunge into the study of mathematics and his brilliance and diligence in this subject more than compensated for his do-nothingness in the arts.

Now out of school, he rejoined the French Army as a Lieutenant, a quite young Lieutenant who fell in love for the first time with the daughter of a Marseilles merchant, Desiree Clary. But it was Josephine, Viscomtesse de Beauharnais, whom he finally married, and it was Josephine to whom he was passionately devoted; for whom he fought battles and for whom he became Emperor. But Josephine eventually wearied of the lonely life, of Napoleon's insatiable quest for military coups, and she sought outside lovers. Napoleon's ardor cooled and he pursued outside romantic interests, one of whom was Maria Walewska, a ravishing beauty from Poland whom he took as his mistress.

After divorcing Josephine, Napoleon again married, not the ravishing beauty from Poland but the Archduchess Maria Louise of Austria, in 1810.

To better study Napoleon's military genius, let us regress to the turning point in France's government. This came on July 14, 1789 when the French prison "La Bastille" was overrun by an excited mob, and a new government, "La Commune" was established in Paris. Today, this day of liberation is still celebrated and is known as Bastille Day.

Under Robespierre, the new Republic drew up a constitution, much in the pattern of our own Declaration of Independence. But the Tribunal was plagued with corruption and Robespierre was executed in 1794. By this time Napoleon had succeeded in making a name for himself, and his superiors realized the value of his military strategy when he won the town of Toulon from the British and Monarchist rebels. For this brilliant coup de grace he was promoted to Brigadier General. It was about this time that he met a widow whose husband had lost his head to the guillotine. This was Josephine and they were married on March 6, 1796.

When Napoleon was twenty-seven years old, he was made Commander of the Italian Campaign which was on a downhill plunge at that time. He immediately went to work on the

It was Napoleon Bonaparte who lead the French armies to glory – until Russia and the winter of 1812. This gold 40 Franc piece bears the mintmark (A) of the Paris Mint on the reverse. The cock to the left of the date is the mark of the Engraver General, roughly equivalent to our Chief Engraver.

demoralized troops, turning the ragged and starving soldiers into an invincible army. He had stood before them, speaking in forthright and honest tones: "You are hungry and naked. The Republic owes you much, but she has not the means to pay her debts. I have come to lead you into the most fertile plains the sun beholds. Rich provinces, opulent towns, all shall be at your disposal. With such prospects, can your courage fail?"

They loved him. And with them he won great victories in Lombardy and Piedmont. It was a wonderful army and Napoleon nurtured it, feeding his men by living off the land and all the time diverting to Paris millions in cash and valuable art works.

While he was adored by his men, he was hated by the English. He considered storming the British Isles but thought better of it. Instead he would strike back at England through her trade with Egypt. This decision made, he took his army in 1798 to fight and win the Battle of the Pyramids, suffering only one flaw – the loss of his fleet at Abukir.

Returning to France, he found political upheaval, his country torn apart, and Italy all but lost. On the 9th of October, 1799, Napoleon, in one direct thrust, ousted the "Directoire" and set up what came to be known as the "Consulate". Three Consuls were appointed: First Consul, Napoleon Bonaparte; Second Consul, Comparceres; Third Consul, Lebrun. The latter two were little more than "in name only" appointees. Napoleon's authority was supreme. And he moved into the Royal Palace.

There are Napoleonic Medals showing the Legion of Honor, the Battle of the Pyramids, the Battle of Esslingen, Battle of Moscow, Conquest of Naples, Coronation at Milan, the Imperial Family, Battle of Waterloo, Defeat of Austria, the Triumphal Arch, Napoleon and Charlemagne, the meeting with Franz of Austria, and Crossing the Rhine. These are but a few that form an almost biographic picture of the life and times of this powerful man.

The ultimate in personal achievement came when he was crowned Emperor in Notre Dame Cathedral on December 2, 1804. All the way from Rome to officiate came Pope Pius VII. But it was not the Pope who placed the crown on the new Emperor's head. It was Napoleon himself. He not only crowned himself, but likewise crowned Josephine as Empress.

His brother Louis (1778-1846) sat on the throne of Holland (1806) through the efforts of Napoleon. He took Venice and Naples; he entered Berlin through the Brandenburg Gate; he invaded Vienna and Pressburg with nary a drop of bloodshed; and when Austria began to make warlike noises, he stormed into that country, defeating them at Esslingen.

When Napoleon returned to Paris in 1810, it was with the conviction that he needed an heir, and since Josephine had remained childless, he divorced her. He then chose for himself a new bride — a daughter of Franz the First of Austria, and he accomplished this through the mail; a letter to Austria's Emperor, announcing that he, Napoleon, had selected one of his daughters for this honor. The mail-order bride arrived and amid great pomp and ceremony, they were married in April, 1810. There are numerous Medals commemorating the nuptials between Marie Louise and Napoleon, contributing still another phase to the medallic biographical history of the Little Emperor.

There was now but one thing needed to make his life complete, and it arrived in March, 1811 — a son! He was "King of Rome" and "Duke of Reichstatt". And again, a beautiful Medal was struck — the baptism of his son.

In his military lifetime, Napoleon had fought and won many battles. Only one rival remained to be conquered: Russia. To bring this rival to his knees, to effect this coup d'état, a Grand Army was formed, and on September 7, 1812, he led his soldiers into Moscow. Too late did he learn of the secret strategy of the Russians — the "scorched earth policy". His forced retreat was a complete disaster and he lost 500,000 men.

> ". . . Napoleon, in one direct thrust, ousted the *Directoire* and set up what came to be known as the *Consulate*."

All of Paris, however, was still his friend, and when he returned to France, still chafing from his blistering defeat, he led his army back into Germany only to be routed once again at Leipzig. He fled in utter defeat back to France and was there when the Tsar triumphantly entered Paris.

On April 16, 1814, Napoleon abdicated, crushed and humiliated. He was a beaten man.

Having settled himself in Paris, the Tsar of Russia was found to be not without generosity. He admired, secretly, the military genius of Napoleon, and as a small compensation, granted him the small island of Elba to govern.

Bonaparte was a sad and stricken man, forsaken by his Empress and her son. The Pope excommunicated him and he was labeled an "outlaw". And in the final analysis, influenced by meaningful propaganda, even the French people turned from him.

But this was not yet the end for Napoleon. In February, 1815, he appeared once more in Paris, sending Louis XVIII fleeing from the city. Once again he held the strings. Once again he had a strong army to back him, but this, too, was short-lived, and his final defeat at Waterloo on June 18, 1815, brought to an end the magnificent Napoleonic era. He was ordered by the Prince Regent of Britain to the isolated confines of St. Helena, there to die of cancer in 1821.

His idolized son, Napoleon II, never reached any of the heights set by his father. He never ruled, and was eventually imprisoned in Austria where he died in 1831 of tuberculosis.

The man who dominated Europe for 25 years was never forgotten by his country, and his ashes rest in a magnificent tomb under the dome in the Church of the Invalides in Paris.

Courtesy: Coin World Library

THE SILVER CROWNS OF ISRAEL

The crowns of Israel have long been considered among the most attractive of the modern world crowns. 1949 marked the issue of the first Israeli silver crown, the 500 Pruta. Only 33,812 were originally minted, with many having been withdrawn from circulation and melted. This low mintage crown in Choice BU condition was struck in .500 fine silver and is silver dollar sized.

In 1974 Israel minted the 25 Pound Ben Gurion commemorative crown. This .935 fine silver coin also has a low mintage of only 68,500 and is Proof. The design of the 1974 25 Pound, in contrast to the 1949 500 Pruta, is a more modernistic design and pays tribute to Israel's first Prime Minister.

Both coins are available individually, or together at a substantial savings. Use your BankAmericard or Master Charge to order today.

1949 Israel 500 Pruta, Choice Brilliant Uncirculated $32.00

1974 Israel 25 Pound, Proof $62.50

SAVE $12 — Buy both for $82.50

Quantities are limited, so please place your order today.

Photos Enlarged

INDIAN HEAD GOLD

Actual Size
27 mm

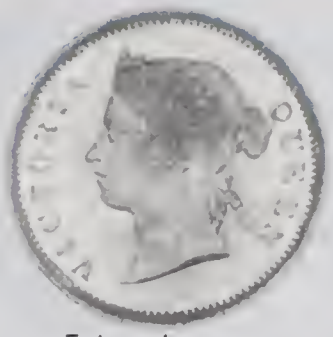
Mint State 65 Eagles!

The most popular U.S. gold coins today are the Indian Head designs of the 20th Century. It seems we just can't keep enough of these in stock — even the common dates.

Right now we have a small quantity of 1932 Indian Head $10 gold pieces — all grading Mint State 65. These are fully lustrous, well-struck coins with a bare minimum number of bagmarks. If you ordered one of these a few months ago and received a "sold out" letter, here's a second chance. But we cannot stress enough how important it is to order these early. We'll gladly reserve one for you if you call our Rare Coin Department between 8 and 5 EDT, Monday through Friday. Just dial 513—836-8641. Please call collect!

1932 Indian Head Eagle, Mint State 65 ..... **$295.00**

NOTE: In the event the 1932's are sold out when your order arrives, we'll send you another date of equal or better value and quality.



Photos Enlarged

MINT STATE VICTORIAN

Actual Size
17 mm

During the Victorian years, 1837 to 1901, the British Government minted many beautiful coins for use in England and throughout the British Empire. The need for circulating coins during this period was so great that all but a few pieces of each issue were placed directly into circulation. Consequently, Mint State specimens are very scarce.

We are pleased to be able to offer truly choice condition 1877 silver ten cent pieces, struck for use on the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. These beautiful coins, struck at the Heaton Mint, have remained virtually untouched since their minting over 99 years ago. With razor sharp strikes and many proof-like characteristics, these coins must rank as the finest known.

We have a very small number to offer and once these have been sold, they cannot be replaced. We recommend you place your order today.

1877 Mauritius Ten Cents, .800 Fine Silver,
Mint State 65 ..... **$79.50**

THE WORLD'S FIRST SET OF LEGAL TENDER COLLECTOR BANKNOTES

For the first time in history, Jamaica is offering a special Limited Edition Set of legal tender Collector Banknotes — an issue that will make numismatic history.

The 1976 Jamaica Banknotes, honouring four of the country's most revered leaders, are truly unique. *Each set will have matching serial numbers — a first in the history of currency collecting.* Only 5,000 sets will be printed, and the sets will be serially numbered from *000001 to *005000. Each set will contain a $1, $2, $5 and $10 note and is priced at $29.50 — just a few dollars over face value.

Each serial number will be preceded by a star, denoting the issue's special significance. The serial number, star, and date "Series 1976" will all be printed in red. The use of the star prefix and the "Series 1976" are firsts for Jamaica currency and add to the great significance of this issue. These Collector Banknotes, like all Jamaica currency, are printed by Thomas De La Rue and Sons of London, England. De La Rue is the oldest and largest currency printing house in the world.

National Currency Day Covers

The Bank of Jamaica has proclaimed November 1, 1976 as National Currency Day and has announced the issuance of the first-ever set of COLLECTOR COVERS illustrating the new Collector Banknotes.

Each set of Collector Covers will be serially numbered and collectors who order both the Banknotes and the Covers will receive the same serial number on both sets. A maximum of 5,000 sets of covers will be produced.

Each set of covers bears a complete set of 1976 Olympic commemorative stamps — cancelled with a special ONE-DAY-ONLY postal cancellation — assuring the future desirability of this beautiful set.

The official issue price for the Currency Day Cover Collection is $14 for a complete set of four. Earliest orders will receive the lowest serial numbers — mail your order today.

ORDER FORM — 1976 JAMAICA BANKNOTES and CURRENCY COVERS

162-21

PRIORITY ORDERING DEADLINE: November 30, 1976

Please Send Me:

_____ Set(s) of Collector Banknotes and Serially Matching Set(s) of Currency Covers @ $43.50 each (Limit: 5 sets) . .$ _____

_____ Set(s) of Collector Banknotes only @ $29.50 each (Limit: 5 sets) . . . . . .$ _____

_____ Set(s) of Currency Covers only @ $14.00 each (Limit: 5 sets) . . . . . .$ _____

Subtotal. . . . . .$ _____

Ohio Residents: Add 4½% State Sales Tax . . . . . .$ _____

TOTAL . . . . . .$ _____

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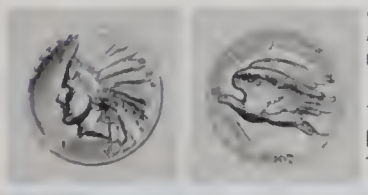
Signature _____

All orders subject to acceptance.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



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Chas Chats

News and views
of the collecting world

by Charles Surasky, N.L.G.

The Treasury Department formally dedicated a time capsule on September 8, 1976 to be opened in 2076. William E. Simon, Secretary of the Treasury, indicated the capsule should be opened by the Secretary of the Treasury in that 21st Century year.

Secretary Simon's words adorn the dedication plaque: "America's greatest resource is the vibrant heritage of a free people. May we have the wisdom and the vision to nourish this birthright forever."

Items gathered for storage in the capsule include messages from President Ford, Secretary Simon, Director of the Mint Mary Brooks, medals, a $2 note signed by Simon and U.S. Treasurer Francine Neff, a silver Bicentennial Proof Set, a collection of photos of the Treasury building and a $25 Savings Bond, payable to the Treasury Historical Society. The Bond will be valued at $6,925.42 in 2076 with interest paid at the rate of six percent.

The Treasury Department also hopes to include a U.S. flag, a red, white and blue stand-up telephone which is currently used by Secretary Simon, a sample of Simon's trip book and the Treasury seal. The capsule will remain open until the end of 1976 so that other Bicentennial memorabilia may be added. The capsule will reside in the Mint's Cash Room.

Each officer of the Treasury was asked to write a letter addressed to his or her counterpart in 2076, dealing with key and important issues facing each officer or bureau. The letters will allow insights into the problems facing the Treasury in 1976.

Mary Brooks wrote the following letter to her counterpart in the next century:

"Dear Colleague,

"As I write this, the Mint is producing over 10 billion cents a year. It is by far our most popular coin, and represents about 75 percent of our coinage production. The nickel, dime, and quarter also enjoy wide use.

The eagle and moon design will once again be placed on the Eisenhower dollar coins. Sources in the Treasury Department report the dollar will be reduced in size to stimulate circulation.

"However, the half dollar and dollar do not circulate as freely, so the Mint is conducting a comprehensive coinage study. The objective is to determine the size, denomination, and composition of coins the Treasury Department should recommend to the Congress to keep the economy amply supplied with coins the public will readily accept and use during the 1980's and beyond.

"Concurrently, the print and broadcast media carry predictions of the cashless society as the wave of the future. How the matter resolves itself is but history to you. Today, I only wish my crystal ball were in better working condition.

"Our Bicentennial has been great cause for joyous celebration nationwide. It has been a time for fireworks and quiet reflection on where we have been and where we hope to go. The Mint did its part to call attention to our 200 years of freedom by changing the reverse design on the quarter, half dollar, and dollars, and I hope you will enjoy examining the 40 percent silver specimens of the Bicentennial coins placed in the time capsule.

"Additionally, the Mint reissued, in pewter, the medals first authorized by the Continental Congress, honoring the heroes of successful battles of the American Revolutionary War.

"Needless to say, our nation remains fiercely dedicated to independence and to self-government, won for us so many years ago.

Happy Tricentennial,
Mary Brooks,
Director of the Mint"

In a related area, the Treasury Department is considering a smaller $1 coin, smaller than our present half dollar. Also being considered is a special method of minting the coin to keep it from being confused with a quarter.

The copper-nickel dollar bearing the Eisenhower design has proven to be too large and too bulky to circulate. A reduced size dollar with a new design is the Treasury's answer. The vending machine industry seems to agree.

"I think a new coin would be good for the whole country as well as our industry," according to G. Richard Schreiber of the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA). "So many things are at a point today where a dollar coin makes sense. The way it is now, someone buying cigarettes needs three or four coins. A long-distance telephone call might take as many as ten coins. A new small $1 coin makes sense."

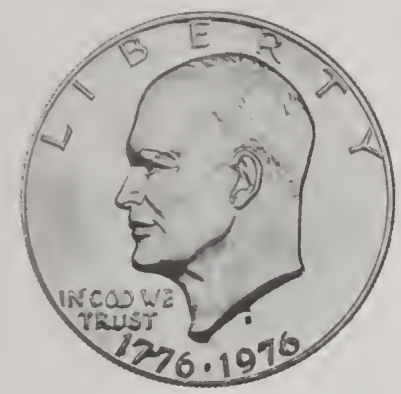
The Treasury can be expected to announce its recommendation for the new small $1 coin to Congress this month. Congressional approval is necessary for all new coins and having the NAMA endorse the change would aid the Treasury's efforts.

One problem with a new smaller dollar, according to persons connected with the project, is finding a way to keep people from mistaking it for a quarter. An 11-sided coin has been tested by the vending industry. A multi-sided coin would immediately become different than the lower value – which is round. "It was interesting," said Schreiber, "but it just wasn't practical." Also considered was a round coin with indentations either on the edge or the face, so it could be distinguished from the quarter.

Change seems assured for the dollar. A new smaller size and the reuse of the eagle landing on the moon design will start a new series for collectors. Why not try to complete your collection of Eisenhower 38.1 millimeter coins while they are available from the bank at face value? If the past is any guide, the new small coin will force all the larger coins from circulation. The Treasury may even recall the larger coins and melt them.

The Eisenhower dollar was first issued in 1971. The coin struck for circulation is copper and nickel, while the silver clad issues are 40% silver. The silver Eisenhower dollars are dated 1971-S, 1972-S, 1973-S (also copper-nickel), 1974-S (also copper-nickel), and 1976-S (also copper-nickel).

Coins struck for circulation are dated 1971 P and D, 1972 P and D, 1974 P and D, and 1976 P and D. The 1973 P and D were issued only in Mint sets of uncirculated coins. No 1975-dated Eisenhower coins were struck. All 1976 dollars are Bicentennial commemoratives and bear a new reverse. Designed by Dennis R. Williams, the new reverse features a Liberty superimposed on the moon. The obverse is unchanged except for the date which reads 1776-1976.



38.1 millimeter dollar coins will no longer be struck. The traditional size was first struck in 1840 bearing the Liberty Seated design. The dual date and the Bicentennial reverse design will be removed from all 1977-dated quarters, halves and dollars.

Fewer than 22 pieces form a complete collection of Eisenhower dollars. Why not start or complete yours today?

Short notes from the ANA convention:

The ANA Board of Governors has directed the ANA's Certification Service (ANACS) to transfer all activities from Washington D.C. to Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Founded in 1972, the ANACS is charged with the task of authenticating coins for members and nonmembers alike. Numismatic material is photographed and if genuine, a certificate is issued to verify it. ANA Executive Vice-President, Edward C. Rochette will assume full control of ANACS when it is located at the ANA's headquarters in Colorado.

Governor Kenneth L. Hallenbeck reported to the ANA Board that work toward completion of an Intermediate Numismatic Correspondence Course is progressing. But all has not been smooth sailing for the project.

"Progress toward completion and implementation of the intermediate numismatic correspondence course has been slow and disappointing," according to Hallenbeck. "Several authors that we counted on have either backed down or have not done their chapters for one reason or another.

"Some of these chapters on specialized subjects we can do without, if we have to, but two are especially important. I feel a chapter on Collecting Foreign Coins and one on Collecting Foreign Paper Money are vital towards the INCC, and the course would not only be incomplete, but inadequate without these chapters."

Collectors, do not stop looking for that key or semi-key coin. Look at every coin in your change and don't neglect to carefully review your collection for "keepers". Ron Milcarek did some intensive "eyeballing" of an 1875-S twenty cent piece and discovered it to be a Proof – a great rarity.

Writing in the September 8 *Coin World*, Tom DeLorey recounts the story of a collector with terrific luck.

Ron Milcarek received by mail, a Proof 1875-S twenty cent piece, offered and sold as a regular issue. Although not listed in many popular guidebooks, the Proof issue has been known to numismatists since 1931 when B. Max Mehl offered a Proof specimen as one of twelve struck.

Why Proofs were struck in San Francisco is not clear. One theory holds the coins were struck to mark the start of a long coinage history. DeLorey notes that similar Proof strikings occurred on 1854-S double eagles ($20 gold) and 1855-S halves and quarter dollars.

Of the twelve pieces suggested by Mehl, Milcarek's is the seventh known at present. Keep looking Ron!

B. Max Mehl suggested that twelve 1875-S Proof twenty cent pieces were known. The recently found example is only the seventh. Where are the remaining five?

A sharp-eyed Groton, Connecticut bank teller found a $1 Federal Reserve Note with a blank reverse – a rare error.

Luanne Long, a teller at the Groton Savings Bank, noticed the error while sorting a crisp package of new $1 notes. She immediately purchased the rarity.

Kenneth DeHart, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing described the error as "highly unusual". Although it is possible that 32 such notes have been released, DeHart said it would not be likely these pieces escaped detection by the Bureau's inspectors. Each of the remaining 31 notes, if they exist, would appear in a separate brick of 4,000 notes. They could logically appear anywhere in New England.

The lady teller checked with local dealers and determined her note to be genuine and unaltered. The note's value might range between $200 and $300. Ms. Long has decided to hold the note in her personal collection for the immediate future.

Proof Set Bonanza!

Webster defines "bonanza" as "an extremely large amount" and "something that is considered very valuable, profitable, or rewarding".

Well, we certainly have a large amount of 1961, 1962 and 1963 Proof Sets as a result of buying a large collection in Eastern Ohio.

Normally, we sell these for $6 each, but if you buy all three as a package, you pay only $17.50. That price includes postage and guaranteed safe delivery to your home!

Remember, these are the older sets with 90% pure silver content in the dimes, quarters and half dollars. Hurry! This bonanza may dry up quickly!

1961, 1962 and 1963
U.S. Proof Sets,
All Three Sets,
SPECIAL $17.50

by Thomas V. Haney, N.L.G.

What can collectors do to help the Bureau of Engraving and Printing get more of the Bicentennial deuces into general circulation? According to James A. Conlon, Director of the BEP, the picturesque new twos will be with us for quite some time and many more will be printed with considerable savings to the taxpayers in mind.

The Federal Reserve Bank districts servicing the nation's financial branches should all have the notes by now. So the question arises "Why don't tellers offer them in change?" The answer, it seems, is that it's too hard to count out the crisp notes from fresh packages. There is nothing that can be done about this for his office has tried several methods, Mr. Conlon stated in a recent interview. Patience is the only answer to the "sticky" notes. And many of the public also frown on new bills.

By getting the twos into circulation, the Government would save millions of dollars, Mr. Conlon said. His office is one of the busiest and probably the only one making money (if you'll pardon the pun) in Washington. And Jim and his capable aides are still involved in research to attain greater production at a lower cost to the Government.

The deuce, formerly considered bad luck money, is still popular with the gambling fraternity that jams the dog races, horse races and trotting tracks mushrooming across the land. Naturally it never proves charming unless the bettor selects a winner.

Big stores in the giant shopping malls, sprouting here and there, aren't particularly fond of the $2 notes for there doesn't seem to be cash registers or proper drawerage in which to keep the bills. And many of the youthful "checker-outers" look on the twos as play money or counterfeits. Many are too young to have lived with the big and little twos of grandfather's era.

One dealing regularly with a smaller branch bank can help by asking for 10 or 20 of the new notes. Just don't stop in for same the day after Social Security checks arrive for there's a real run on the banks then and even your favorite teller might be short on patience.

Crinkle the bills slightly after obtaining same and then use them for everyday purchases. In this way we'll get them moving. The Bicentennial coinage, the quarter, half and dollar, also had difficulty getting away from the starting line, as many hoarded them for souvenirs or the banks wouldn't issue them in change unless asked. Now they are plentiful and circulating in every part of the country.

So collectors can help in their own way to alleviate the problems of the BEP and cut production costs for themselves and other taxpayers. The $1 note will continue to be made, according to Mr. Conlon, making a good running mate for our nice deuce. Two new Bicentennial bills and a $1 note make neat change for a $5.

Crowding the Calendar

The conflict in dates for conventions and/or shows is one of the big problems within our hobby today and this fact resulted in some heated arguments during the last ANA convention. It seems everyone wants to become "King or Queen of the Numismatic Realm".

The Greater New York area is one of the worst in this respect, with as many as 12 events taking place on the same weekend within an area of some 50 miles. And these shows do not include the spreading flea markets, where the inexperienced public really is "taken in", giving honest dealers and many collectors black eyes.

One of the most recent "mix-ups" in dating, as of this writing, is that by two popular Florida groups that have planned shows for the same days. The big International Mid-Winter Convention, sponsored by the South Florida Coin Club, is set for January 6-9 at the Deauville Hotel in Miami Beach.

The Florida United Numismatists (FUN) have scheduled their 22nd annual gathering for the same time at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood. The two groups formerly held their annual events about a week apart.

The Mid-Winter by the SFCC has proved a popular one since its founding, attracting visitors and dealers from many states and foreign countries. It provided the kickoff for the major shows of the New Year in the Southlands. More than 100 dealers are expected for the January gathering and Paramount will conduct the auction sales. Exhibits, on both a prize and noncompetitive basis, will run the numismatic gamut from wooden money to rare silver and gold pieces.

It is the hopes of many that the sponsors of these two major conventions in the Sunshine State can get together and keep things on a smooth course.

There have been conflicts in past years, such as that between the Numismatic Association of Southern California and the Long Beach International Coin and Stamp Exposition. But the sponsors of these two major events on the Coast saw the light.

NASC's 22nd annual convention in 1977 will be held at the Los Angeles Hilton February 24-27 with a big PNG Day February 23. The Long Beach International is set for February 17-20 at the refurbished Long Beach Arena.

Both these California shows have been big, popular ones in the past and the sponsors, by getting together, have ironed out a real problem and are to be congratulated. Many collectors, dealers and vacationers like to take part or visit both events, but found it mighty difficult to be in two places at the same time.

The Paramount Journal wants to hear from you

In each issue we try to publish a wide variety of articles and photographs along with a selection of numismatic and philatelic items. If you have any comments or suggestions about the *Journal*, we would appreciate hearing from you! Address your letters to:

Charles Surasky, Editor
The Paramount Journal
1 Paramount Plaza
Englewood, Ohio 45322

Mint Condition Mercury Dimes...

ARE UNDERVALUED! What other Uncirculated type coin can you buy for less than $3? Buffalo nickels in Mint condition sell for at least $10-$12. Uncirculated Walking Liberty half dollars sell for even more than that. Each is an obsolete design. Each is about 30 years old. Yet the Mercury dimes are available for less than $3 each. How long do you think this can continue? We don't know, but we guess it won't be *too* long.

Paramount's Chief Numismatic Buyer purchased a hoard of 1945-P Mercury dimes from a gentleman on the East Coast, which enables us to make this amazing offer: Until our supplies are exhausted you may purchase one complete roll (50 coins) of Mint State 60 1945-P Mercury dimes for the amazing price of just $149. Only rarely have we been able to offer Mercury dimes by the roll, due to their scarcity in quantity. But, this hoard now presents a fabulous chance for you to own 50 type coins in Mint condition — and for less than $3 per coin! Don't hesitate. Send your order now. Or call and use your BankAmericard or Master Charge. But do it today.

1945-P Mercury Dimes, Mint State 60 or Better, Roll of 50 ..... **$149.00**

MINT ENGRAVERS – UNSUNG HEROES

Eighth in a Series

by Helen Price

Among the youngest of our Chief Engravers was John Ray Sinnock, receiving his first appointed position at the United States Mint as Assistant Engraver and Medalist at the age of twenty-nine.

Unlike many of his predecessors, he was born in the United States in Raton, New Mexico, in 1888. Through his work and his studies, he lived in many parts of the world, but he chose New Mexico as his final resting place.

Sinnock was a graduate of the Pennsylvania Museum Art School where, after completing advance study in Europe, he served as an instructor. He also taught art at Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

His position as Assistant Engraver was short-lived as he resigned that post in 1919. However, when the Chief Engraver George Morgan died in 1925, Sinnock was appointed Chief Engraver by President Calvin Coolidge, becoming this nation's eighth Chief Engraver – the eighth man to join "The Worthy Line".

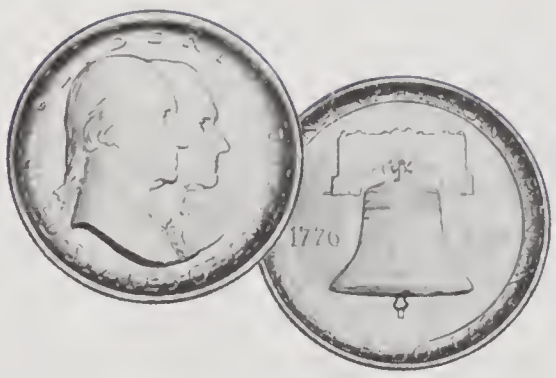
He remained Chief Engraver until death twenty-two years later at the age of fifty-nine.

From 1946 to 1964, mintmarks on Roosevelt Dimes appeared on the reverse to the left of the base of the torch. Starting in 1968, the mintmarks appear above the date on the obverse. Sinnock's initials appear to the left of the date.

The works left behind by John Sinnock are legion and numerous. The best known of his coins – and the only one still being minted today – is the Roosevelt Dime. It was his initials JS at Roosevelt's neck that caused something of an uproar when a goodly portion of the public spread the word that they stood for Joseph Stalin, Roosevelt's wartime ally. So it is not surprising that when the 1948 Franklin Half Dollar was issued – also a Sinnock design but not put into circulation until after his death – the bust was initialed JRS. All of which serves as a glowing example of how public opinion can alter the face of coinage.

John Sinnock's Franklin Half Dollar is the only U.S. coin to legally carry the name of a private firm.
When the Liberty Bell was damaged in shipment, it was repaired by the firm of Pass and Stow. Their name appears at the apex of the crack in the bell by a resolution of the Philadelphia Assembly, who ordered it cast as a courtesy to the craftsmen who repaired it.

Sinnock's 1926 Philadelphia Sesquicentennial $2.50 gold commemorative features Liberty standing with a torch of freedom on the obverse and Independence Hall on the reverse. Selling for approximately $250 today, the Sesquicentennial quarter eagle catalogued for only $85 in 1966.



The International Fair held in Philadelphia in 1926 celebrated the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. A fifty cent piece and a $2.50 gold coin were issued to mark the occasion. President Calvin Coolidge (resident of the White House in 1926) and George Washington appear on the half dollar's obverse. The reverse features the Liberty Bell. This coin was the first to honor a President during his lifetime. (See page 22 for additional information.)

Three of our commemorative coins owe their designs to John Sinnock: the Sesquicentennial Half Dollar and the Sesquicentennial $2.50 gold piece, both in commemoration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and both issued as an aid to raising funds toward the financing of the International Fair in Philadelphia in 1926.

Sinnock likewise designed the reverse of the Lincoln-Illinois Half Dollar, this while still an assistant at the Mint in 1918. The obverse was done by George Morgan, Chief Engraver at that time.

In addition to the U.S. coins, Sinnock designed several coins for foreign governments. This Cuban Peso was struck on a 90% silver planchet using Sinnock's designs.

Sinnock's works were not limited to the United States, for in 1934 he designed the Cuban One Peso; in 1931, the Un Lempira of Honduras; and for China, the 1929 One Dollar pattern piece which, incidentally, was never adopted by the Chinese.

Many of his medals won awards in national competition, among them the Congressional Gold Medal to honor

Thomas Edison; the Elisworth-Amundsen-Nobile Medal to commemorate the flight of the dirigible "Norse" over the North Pole in 1929. His designs grace four of the medals for the Presidential Mint Medal series: Coolidge 1926; Hoover 1929; Roosevelt 1935; and Truman 1945. He designed a special Congressional medal in silver to honor members of Admiral Peary's party in discovering the North Pole, 1909, Navy Dept. 1945.

Sinnock was one of the few engravers equally versed in oils, water colors and sculpturing, and several of his mural decorations appear in Philadelphia schools today.

By the time his health had failed, John Sinnock had carved a permanent niche for himself in the history books of mint records. His was a free spirit, evidenced so vividly in his numerous works and further demonstrated in his will which requested that his body be cremated and the ashes scattered over his beloved and native New Mexico.

One who knew him well suggested an epitaph on his death, and though it was never used, it probably describes best the feelings he imbued in the hearts of his friends:
"John Ray Sinnock, 1888-1947, a genius, a gentleman and an inspiration."

Courtesy: Coin World Library

To call Paramount's
STAMP or COIN experts,
just dial **836-8641**
It's the ONE number
you need for collectibles.

Modern Issue Status Report

Canadian Olympic Series I-VII — All paid orders processed before October 12 will be shipped by November 8.

Canadian Olympic $100 Gold Proof Coins — The Royal Canadian Mint is currently striking these coins. All paid orders received after July 15 will be shipped in late October.

Olympic Display Stands — Virtually all presentation stands have been shipped to subscription customers receiving their Series II Sets.

1974 and 1975 U.S.S.R. Specimen Sets — Cash orders are being processed weekly. Charge orders are being processed every two weeks.

1976 Bahamas Proof and Uncirculated $2 Coins — We have received a partial shipment of these coins from the Franklin Mint. We expect to ship all remaining orders in mid-November.

1976 Cook Islands $100 Gold Coins — Virtually all orders have been shipped.

1976 Barbados Proof $10 Coins, Specimen Sets and Proof Sets — We have received a partial shipment of these coins from the Franklin Mint. We expect to ship all remaining orders in early November.

1976 Papua New Guinea 100 Kina Proof Gold Coins — Virtually all orders have been shipped.

1976 Malta 9-coin Proof Sets — The Franklin Mint will strike these coins and we are scheduled to receive a partial shipment in early November. Orders will be shipped in the sequence received.

1976 Cayman Islands 8-coin Proof Sets and $5 Proof Coins — The Royal Canadian Mint is currently striking these coins. We expect to receive our entire order by October 30 and ship all orders by November 15.

1976 Cayman Islands Six Queens $100 Gold Coins and $50 Silver Coins — All orders received by September 30 will be shipped by October 30.

1976 Turks and Caicos Islands Victoria 100 Crown Gold Coins, 50 and 20 Crown Silver Coins — All orders received by October 15 will be shipped by mid-November.

Paramount is very anxious to make delivery of your coins and we will continue our efforts with the respective mints to obtain delivery at the earliest possible date.

This status report was prepared October 20, 1976.

Numismatic Nostalgia

The Coolidge Portrait On The Sesqui Coins

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, on March 28, devoted a full page to an interview with Farran Zerbe on the proposed Sesqui coins and a description of some of the numismatic oddities in his collection. Part of the interview is reprinted here: "The issuance of a memorial silver half-dollar as well as of a two-and-a-half-dollar gold piece to commemorate the exposition has been authorized by Congress. Designs have been submitted for both. As this is written the design of a 50-cent piece, which will bear the President's portrait, is still awaiting approval. If approved, the coins will be minted immediately and delivered to officials of the exposition, who will put them up for sale at a premium to help finance the celebration.

"The design of the coin which may bear the President's portrait is being arranged by John M. Sinnock, engraver of the Philadelphia Mint. As submitted to officials at Washington, it suggests for the obverse side profiles of Washington and Coolidge arranged in what numismatists call "jugate" design, or one imposed upon the other, as the heads of Washington and Lafayette were impressed on the Lafayette dollar. The reverse side will be conventional.

" 'In light of the enhanced value of the coins struck to commemorate previous expositions, the purchase of the coins at a premium will be an investment,' said Farran Zerbe, former President of the American Numismatic Association, who has placed his expert knowledge and experience at the service of Sesqui-centennial officials. 'The Panama-Pacific Exposition memorial half-dollar, for example, was sold for a dollar by the exposition officials. It is now so scarce that it will bring $7.50 at any sale. The Sesqui-centennial coins will be put out in small lots as the demand is anticipated. This will eventually increase their value for collections, because there will be no surfeit of them after the demand has been satisfied.

" 'There has been comment to the effect that an "unwritten law" prevents the use of portraits of living men on our coinage. This is, of course, an unsupported statement which has come to be accepted by some as fact. The basis of it lies probably in a decision made more than a century ago by George Washington.

" 'Shortly after conclusion of the Revolution, when the new nation was still facing an uncertain future, a group of men proposed that Washington's profile be engraved on our coinage. To that the first President objected on the grounds that it was typical of monarchy. But the last century and a half has led us far away from any monarchial suggestion. While Washington's objection was appropriate enough under the conditions existing at that time, we have now outlived the necessity for such caution.

" 'Evidence that the Government doesn't recognize such an "unwritten law" may be seen in the centennial half-dollar issued for the State of Alabama, when it celebrated its 100th year of Statehood in 1919. On that coin appeared the portraits in "jugate" design of the first Governor, William Wyatt Bibb, and the Centennial Governor, Thomas F. Kilby.

The "unwritten law" was first broken on the Alabama commemorative half dollar.

" 'The Alabama coin was especially noted for the fact that Governor Kilby was the first living American to see his portrait on a coin. Portraits of living persons have appeared on our paper money during and immediately after the Civil War. The discontinuance of such portraits is said to have followed certain objections raised to a proposed 15-cent scrip in 1869, during the tragic reconstruction period. It had been planned to place the portraits of the two Union generals, Grant and Sherman, on the scrip, but when the patterns for this issue were brought to the attention of Southern Congressmen they declared them unacceptable. The issue was never printed, and there has been none since carrying the portrait of a living man.

" 'It is a dignified and a beautiful method of recognition,' he said, 'apart from that fact, such coins should prove of rare historic interest. Portraits on money have proved invaluable at all times to the historian. Much of what we know of ancient Rome and Greece has been imparted to us through their coins, made as they are of the least perishable of materials." '

Reprinted from *The Numismatist*, May, 1926.

1883-S Dollars: A SKYROCKETING DATE

From LaVere Redfield's Personal Collection

1966: $22.50
1976: $395.00

Are you aware of the tremendous price rises in the Morgan Dollar series? Many dates have multiplied in value TEN TIMES in the last ten years. Collectors have found several dates extremely difficult to locate in Choice Mint condition and the price has rocketed in response to the demand.

One coin which fits this description is the 1883-S Morgan Dollar. It listed in the 1966 *Guide Book of U.S. Coins* for $22.50. Look at today's price to see the strength the silver dollar market is enjoying. And with hundreds of new silver dollar collectors entering the hobby due to the publicity generated by the Redfield Collection, the future is assured.

LaVere Redfield wisely selected the 1883-S silver dollar as a prime candidate for appreciation. From his collection we selected the choicest 1883-S silver dollars — the choicest condition coins often make the best investments — and offer them for addition to your collection or portfolio. You'll like these coins today — they grade our conservative Mint State 65. And you'll enjoy them in the future — you'll have a genuinely rare coin from the Redfield Collection of silver dollars. More than ten times in ten years. A remarkable record. Order yours today.

1883-S Morgan Silver Dollar, Mint State 65 ..... **$395.00**

Buying on a budget? Use your Master Charge or BankAmericard and just say "charge it".

THE HEXAGONAL ELEPHANT

During the War years 1941 to 1945, the U.S. Government struck many coins for foreign governments. Among these were the unusual 2 Franc pieces of the Belgian Congo. Struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1943, this scarce 6-sided coin is much sought after by World Coin collectors. Our buyers, in fact, have a difficult time locating over two or three of these coins at any major show they attend. Fortunately, we recently were able to locate a small group of them collected by a missionary in the late 1940's.

While our small quantity lasts, we are able to offer you Extremely Fine condition coins at the low price of $14.95 each ($2 under the current catalogue value).

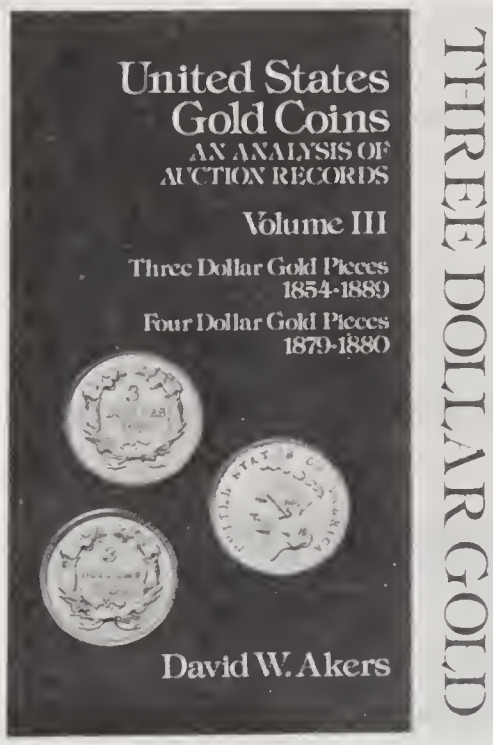
Remember, our supply is very limited. Don't be disappointed; place your order immediately.

1943 Belgian Congo 2 Francs, Extremely Fine **$14.95**

The Bookshelf

by Thomas V. Haney, N.L.G.
Former Numismatic Editor of
The New York Times

The most recent book issued by Paramount was introduced at the ANA convention in New York. The publication, *United States Gold Coins, An Analysis of Auction Records,* is Volume III in the series being compiled by David W. Akers, Executive Vice-President of the company. The beautifully bound, well illustrated publication covers the $3 gold pieces (1854-1889) and the $4 pieces (1879-1880). The format of this reference work is identical with that of its predecessors on the dollars and quarter eagles, both of which proved popular with collectors, dealers and investors alike.



Copies of the 92-page hardbound ($12.50 postpaid) may be ordered direct from Paramount International Coin Corporation, 1 Paramount Plaza, Englewood, Ohio 45322.

During the ANA show, Volume III was sold at the Paramount table with only one major problem – not enough had been shipped east to fill the many requests of conventioneers. Copies of Volume I ($7.95) and Volume II ($12.95) also are available at the Ohio offices.

Author Akers already is at work on the fourth book of his series of six volumes. As he points out in his interesting introduction, it is practically impossible to give a complete listing of every single auction record for every single coin, so a decision had to be made as to which catalogues should be included. Akers writes that his main objective was to obtain information concerning the relative rarity of the $3 gold pieces with respect to both condition and the total number available.

The many months of painstaking study and research required by the author to turn out a book of such worth is clearly evident from cover to cover. Akers chose the auctions that are well known and highly respected as "the great gold sales", going back to the John Story Jenks Sale conducted by Henry Chapman in 1921. Also used for his reference were catalogues for just about every major sale since 1965 that contained any gold coins. A complete list of the 238 catalogues employed in the research work appear in Appendix E of Volume III.

Larry Stevens, noted numismatic photographer, handled most of the illustrations although a number of gold pieces from Paramount's extensive inventory or auction sales were "shot" by Tom Mulvaney of the company's rare coin staff.

Stevens took many of his pictures at the Smithsonian Institution and Johns Hopkins University. He also gained permission from Louis Eliasberg, Jr. to photograph the 1870-S $3 gold piece from the world famous collection of his late father. The Eliasberg Collection, on exhibition at the Mint in Philadelphia, proved a big attraction for numismatists visiting the city for Bicentennial events.

Akers, who ranks among the international leaders in his field, devoted a page to each of the items he has covered in his third book. His comments on auction grading and other data on the priced gold pieces are excellent.

OUR EARLY PAPER MONEY

Eric P. Newman, whose book titled *The Early Paper Money of America* was generally recognized as the most important work of its kind, revised his masterpiece as a greatly expanded publication to mark this nation's Bicentennial year. The new edition, bound in a durable hard cover with a colorful dust jacket, was released August 1 by the Whitman Coin Products Division of the Western Publishing Company, Inc. of Wisconsin.

The volume, now grown to 416 pages, was completely overhauled and updated. It carries numerous new illustrations and listings, including the early private issues of New York.

Collectors and students of history should derive many hours of pleasure from reading or doing research within the covers of this work, which rates a prominent niche in any library. The author has covered the complete background of currency of Revolutionary days and the debut of fiat money in this country. Values for all issues of Colonial and Continental currency have been brought up to date, giving both collectors and dealers the latest possible info on the value of various items. Among the other features of the revision is a list of all the known sheets of notes and counterfeits.

The suggested retail price of the volume is $22.50. According to Kenneth E. Bressett, Whitman's manager, the book will be available from hundreds of coin dealers and in many bookstores and hobby shoppes. It also may be ordered direct from Department M., Western Publishing Company, Inc., 1220 Mound Avenue, Racine, Wis. 53404, in which case $1 for postage and handling must be added.

Newman became interested in the hobby at the age of ten and soon was taking part in all the numismatic activities of the St. Louis area. He became fascinated by research and wrote of his findings to gain international recognition as one of the most scholarly and meticulous of researchers. The first edition of *The Early Paper Money of America* was published in 1967 after more than a decade of work by the Missouri business executive.

Eric has provided members of the collecting family with many outstanding "guides". His writings include such productions as *The Good Samaritan Shilling* and *The Fantastic 1804 Dollar,* of which Ken Bressett was co-author. Among Newman's many other writings are die studies on the Fugio cent, the Virginia halfpenny, the Plantation farthing and the Continental dollar.

PENNY WHIMSY RETURNS

The large cents of 1793-1814, which played such dramatic roles in the history of our nation, always have been popular with numismatists and William H. Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy* is considered the king of reference books for the background data and grading of these interesting early American coppers.

First issued in 1958, the volume has been revised and updated and was released in late August by Quarterman Publications, Inc. of 5 South Union Street, Lawrence, Mass. 01812. Priced at $25, it can be ordered only from the address given here.

The handsome hardbound, with a dust jacket bearing a 1794 coin, covers the entire series of the early cents and includes good descriptions of more than 300 known varieties. Its 408 pages carry the Sheldon system of grading and evaluation and mintage tables, plus 51 sharp halftone plates that picture more than 500 obverse and reverse dies.

The plates were reproduced from photographs, rather than from those printed in the original and reprints of the book. Even a newcomer to the hobby of collecting would have little trouble in identifying the varieties of these historic pieces.

As mentioned above, the publication has been completely updated, with typographical and other such minor errors of the earlier reprints corrected.

Dorothy I. Paschal and Walter Breen collaborated with the author. Many others were credited for their aid in the preface as Sheldon writes "We have become more or less indebted to almost every active cent watcher in the country, and to many of the dealers." He gives special praise to Kenneth Bressett of the Western Publishing Company, whose "skillful photography has improved the appearance of many of the varieties on the plates."

In addition to background data on the coppers, evaluation tables and instructions for grading, the latest revision is crammed with features. A number of chapters, such as one titled the "Birth and Childhood of the Big Cents" provide fascinating reading. The author tells how he became interested in this coinage and why he wrote his original book.

With our country celebrating the Bicentennial of its Independence, Quarterman's couldn't have chosen a more appropriate time to publish a revised *Penny Whimsy*. The large cents give many a nostalgic feeling for our America of long ago, and even more so today. The coppers, especially rare ones of low mintage, have been bringing astounding prices at auctions of recent years.

TWO HANDY GUIDES REVISED

There is something nice about authoritative pocket-size guides, not too much to take along to club meetings, conventions or when going on a "shopping excursion". Two such books, selling for $1.50 each, have been issued by the House of Collectibles, Inc., P.O. Box D, Industrial Park, Florence, Ala. 35630.

The *Official Guide United States Paper Money*, by Theodore Kemm for 1977, covers our paper currency of all denominations, Federal Reserve notes, silver certificates, gold and legal tender notes from 1861 to date. Photos of each, dates, signatures and seals are within the booklet.

Ted presents some good historical data on the production of the currency along with information on collecting, grading, printing and engraving, where to sell, rarities, fractional currency, good finds, mules and blocks. A section on freaks and errors, with descriptions, is another feature of the illustrated paperback.

Prices, always subject to fast changes, have been updated. The author, who manages to get much into his wee volume of 192 pages, has included a handy check list, which gives paper money collectors a good means for keeping an inventory.

The *Official Black Book of United States Coins*, dated for 1977, and issued for the 14th time, has a similar format and also covers 192 pages. It includes buying and selling prices of every United States coin issued from 1616 to date. The publisher has given special attention to gold items in the illustrated *Black Book*. Five grades are listed in tables for the cents, nickels, dimes, quarters and half dollars.

Six Different Morgan Dollars

for Only $52.50

You may remember when silver dollars could be obtained at the bank for just $1 each. No more! Today, the most common silver dollars cost at least $8 to $10 each in Mint condition. And the demand for these solid chunks of the past is increasing every month. In the past few months we've greeted hundreds of new silver dollar collectors on the strength of our reputation and the publicity surrounding the Redfield Collection! Silver dollar collecting is here to stay!

Until our current supplies are exhausted, we offer six different Morgan-designed silver dollars for the surprisingly low price of just $52.50 — less than $9 per coin. These 90% pure silver beauties will make excellent additions to your collection — or order several groups for gifts — the holiday season is just around the corner! Order yours now.

Six Different Morgan Dollars, Dates of Our Choice (1878 to 1921), Mint State 60 or Better $52.50

An Explanation of Quantitative Grading

You may have noted some changes in the grading of coins offered in this *Journal*. We are adapting the quantitative grading system originally formulated for use with U.S. Large Cents by Dr. William Sheldon.

Paramount was the first company to use quantitative grading for all silver dollars (1972) in our inventory. Our auctions have been quantitatively graded since 1968.

Some of the advantages of quantitative grading are:

- The elimination of split grades (i.e., EF/AU becomes EF-45, VG/F becomes VG-10, etc.)
- Grading is more precise and accurate.
- Quantitative grading is standard. No more will a collector have to choose from "Choice BU", "Superb Gem BU", "Gem BU", "Really Gem BU" and all the other adjectival descriptions used. Every coin in our inventory will be graded numerically without all the superlatives.

Quantitative Grading:

Number	Condition
1	Poor
2	Fair
3	About Good
4-6	Good
8-10	Very Good
12-15	Fine
20-30	Very Fine
40-45	Extremely Fine
50-55	About Uncirculated
60-65-70	Uncirculated
55-60-65-70	Proof

Intermediate numbers (43, 58, etc.) are not used. However, a plus (+) sign is sometimes used to designate that a given coin is somewhat better than the listed quantitative grade, but not good enough to qualify for the next highest one. Example: an MS-60+ is an Uncirculated coin which is better than an MS-60 but not quite as good as an MS-65 coin.

After you use it, we think you'll agree that quantitative grading is the most sensible and accurate method of grading employed so far.

UNITED STATES COINS

FLYING EAGLE CENTS

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MS-65 . . . . . 565.00
Proof-60 . . . . . 2100.00

INDIAN HEAD CENTS

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AU-55 . . . . . 139.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 1200.00
1860, MS-60 . . . . . 129.00
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MS-60 . . . . . 145.00
MS-65 . . . . . 195.00
1862, AU-50 . . . . . 29.00
MS-60 . . . . . 119.00
MS-65 . . . . . 159.00
1863, AU-50 . . . . . 29.00
MS-60 . . . . . 119.00
MS-65 . . . . . 149.00
1864, AU-50 . . . . . 39.00
MS-60 . . . . . 135.00
MS-65 . . . . . 195.00
1864, Bronze, MS-60, Red and Brown 65.00
1864-L, Fine-12 . . . . . 39.00
MS-65 . . . . . 325.00
1865, MS-60 . . . . . 55.00
MS-60, full mint red 65.00
MS-65 . . . . . 75.00
1866, AU-50 . . . . . 75.00
MS-60, Red and Brown, weakly struck reverse 95.00
1867, MS-65, 95% Red 145.00
MS-65, Red 159.00
1869, Good-6 . . . . . 20.00
1870, VF-30 . . . . . 55.00
MS-60, full red, slight reverse spotting 155.00
1871, VF-20 . . . . . 59.00
1873, Closed 3, MS-60, Red and Brown 85.00
1874, MS-60, mostly red 95.00
MS-65, Red 129.00
1875, MS-60 . . . . . 85.00
MS-60, Red and Brown 85.00
MS-65, Red 120.00
1876, MS-60 . . . . . 95.00
1877, Good-6 . . . . . 119.00
EF-40 . . . . . 395.00
MS-60, Red and Brown . . . 950.00
1878, Proof-60 . . . . . 150.00
1879, MS-60, Red 55.00
MS-65, Brown 65.00
MS-65 . . . . . 75.00
1881, MS-60, Red and Brown . . 35.00
1882, MS-60, Red and Brown . . 35.00
1884, AU-55 . . . . . 24.00
1885, AU-55 . . . . . 29.00
1886, EF-45 . . . . . 16.00
1886, Variety I, Proof-65 . . . . 135.00
1887, AU-55 . . . . . 12.00
1888, AU-55 . . . . . 12.00
MS-65, Proof-like 65.00
1889, MS-60, Red and Brown . . 32.50
1890, AU-55 . . . . . 12.00
MS-65 . . . . . 45.00
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Proof-65 . . . . . 119.00
1900, MS-65 . . . . . 42.50
1901, MS-65 . . . . . 42.50
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1909-S, EF-40 . . . . . 139.00
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LINCOLN CENTS

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1909, VDB, MS-60 . . . . . 13.50
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1909-S, VDB, MS-60, Red and Brown 295.00
MS-65, full red 350.00
1909-S, MS-65, Red and Olive . . 92.50
1910, MS-60, Red and Brown . . 10.00
MS-60 . . . . . 12.50
MS-65 . . . . . 19.00
1910-S, MS-60, Red and Brown 57.50
MS-65 . . . . . 69.00
1911-D, MS-60 . . . . . 55.00

1914-D, Good-6 . . . . . 50.00
VG-10 . . . . . 55.00
MS-60, Red and Brown . . . 695.00
1915, Proof-65 . . . . . 249.00
1920-D, MS-65 . . . . . 45.00
1921, MS-65, full red 39.00
1921-S, MS-60, Red and Brown 195.00
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1923-S, MS-60, brilliant 250.00
1924, MS-65 . . . . . 29.00
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MS-65 . . . . . 9.00
1929, MS-60 . . . . . 6.00
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MS-65 . . . . . 69.00
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MS-60, Red 49.00
MS-65 . . . . . 59.00
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MS-65 . . . . . 21.00
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MS-60, Brown 395.00
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MS-60, Red and Brown . . . 235.00
MS-65, Red and Brown . . . 295.00
MS-65, Red 340.00
1865, MS-60, Red and Brown 235.00
MS-65, Brown 250.00
MS-65 . . . . . 295.00
1866, MS-60, Brown 195.00
1868, Proof-60 . . . . . 295.00
1870, MS-60, Red 275.00
1873, Closed 3, Proof-65 . . . . 895.00

SHIELD NICKELS

1866, MS-60 . . . . . 395.00
1868, EF-45 . . . . . 32.00
MS-65 . . . . . 215.00
1869, MS-60 . . . . . 179.00
MS-65 . . . . . 225.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 245.00
1872, MS-60 . . . . . 179.00
MS-65 . . . . . 225.00
1873, Proof-65 . . . . . 245.00
1876, MS-60 . . . . . 179.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 249.00
1877, Proof-65 . . . . . 995.00
1878, Proof-65 . . . . . 350.00
1879, Proof-65 . . . . . 295.00
1880, Proof-65 . . . . . 295.00
1881, Proof-65 . . . . . 295.00
1882, MS-65 . . . . . 215.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 245.00
1883, AU-55 . . . . . 55.00
MS-60 . . . . . 169.00
MS-65 . . . . . 215.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 245.00

LIBERTY HEAD NICKELS

1883, No Cents, AU-50 . . . . . 9.50
AU-55 . . . . . 11.50
MS-60 . . . . . 45.00
MS-65 . . . . . 52.00
1883, With Cents, MS-65 . . . . 110.00
1885, Proof-65 . . . . . 365.00
1886, Proof-65 . . . . . 219.00
1888, Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1889, MS-65 . . . . . 110.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1890, MS-60 . . . . . 85.00
MS-65 . . . . . 110.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1893, Proof-60 . . . . . 115.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1895, Proof-65 . . . . . 155.00
1896, AU-55 . . . . . 37.50
MS-60 . . . . . 89.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 169.00
1898, Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1899, MS-60 . . . . . 85.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1900, MS-65 . . . . . 99.00
1901, Proof-65 . . . . . 145.00
1907, AU-55 . . . . . 29.00
1910, MS-60 . . . . . 75.00
1911, MS-60 . . . . . 79.00
1912, MS-65 . . . . . 99.00
1912-D, MS-60 . . . . . 195.00
1912-S, VG-6 . . . . . 38.00

BUFFALO NICKELS

1913, Type I, MS-60 . . . . . 39.00
MS-65 . . . . . 45.00
1913-D, Type I, MS-60 . . . . . 45.00
MS-65 . . . . . 52.00
1913-S, Type I, MS-60 . . . . . 49.00
MS-65 . . . . . 65.00
1913, Type II, MS-60 . . . . . 29.00
MS-65 . . . . . 35.00
1913-D, Type II, VG-10 . . . . . 24.00
MS-65 . . . . . 150.00
1914, MS-60 . . . . . 32.00
1914-D, MS-65 . . . . . 179.00
1915, AU-50 . . . . . 13.50
MS-65 . . . . . 42.00
1916, AU-55 . . . . . 12.00
MS-60 . . . . . 26.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1917, MS-60 . . . . . 32.00
1918-D, 8 Over 7, VG-8 . . . . . 260.00
1920-S, AU-55 . . . . . 75.00
1921, MS-60 . . . . . 75.00
MS-65 . . . . . 99.00
1923, MS-60 . . . . . 32.00
1923-S, MS-60 . . . . . 225.00
1924, MS-65 . . . . . 72.50
1924-D, MS-65 . . . . . 395.00
1925-D, MS-60 . . . . . 249.00
1925-S, MS-60 . . . . . 250.00
1926, MS-60 . . . . . 29.00
1926-D, MS-60, weak strike . . 129.00
1927, MS-60 . . . . . 24.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1928-D, MS-60 . . . . . 25.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1929-D, MS-60 . . . . . 29.00
MS-65 . . . . . 35.00
1930, MS-65 . . . . . 22.00
1930-S, MS-65 . . . . . 59.00
1931-S, VF-30 . . . . . 5.00
MS-60 . . . . . 59.00
MS-65 . . . . . 69.00
1934, MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1934-D, MS-60 . . . . . 35.00
MS-65 . . . . . 42.00
1935-D, MS-60 . . . . . 24.00
1935-S, MS-60 . . . . . 14.00
1936, MS-60 . . . . . 10.00
MS-65 . . . . . 12.00
1936-S, MS-60 . . . . . 12.00
MS-65 . . . . . 14.00
1937, MS-60 . . . . . 10.00
MS-65 . . . . . 12.00
1937-D, MS-60 . . . . . 10.00
MS-65 . . . . . 12.00
1937-D, Three-Legged, Fine-12 . . . . . 52.00
VF-30 . . . . . 65.00
1937-S, MS-60 . . . . . 12.00
MS-65 . . . . . 14.00
1938-D, MS-65 . . . . . 12.00

JEFFERSON NICKELS

1938-D, MS-60 . . . . . 6.00
1939-D, EF-40 . . . . . 9.00
AU-55 . . . . . 22.00
MS-60 . . . . . 42.00
MS-65 . . . . . 45.00
1939-S, MS-60 . . . . . 12.00
1942, Proof-65 . . . . . 75.00
1942, Type II, MS-60 . . . . . 11.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 75.00
1942-D, MS-60 . . . . . 12.00
1950-D, MS-60 . . . . . 10.00
MS-65 . . . . . 11.00

HALF DOLLARS

1803, Large 3, VF-30 . . . . . 210.00
1805, Normal Date, Fine-15 . . . 89.00
1806, Pointed 6, Stem through Claw, EF-45 . . . . . 540.00
AU-50 . . . . . 750.00
1807, Draped Bust, MS-60+ . . 4950.00
1807, 50 Over 20, Bust Left, Fine-15 . . . . . 49.00
MS-60 . . . . . 895.00
1808, 8 Over 7, VF-30 . . . . . 65.00
1809, AU-50 . . . . . 155.00
AU-55 . . . . . 235.00
MS-60 . . . . . 450.00
1810, MS-65. Coin is slightly weak on eagle's left wing, but this is peculiar to the variety and coin is not weakly struck, from 1975 ANA Sale 850.00
1811, VF-20 . . . . . 35.00
EF-45 . . . . . 59.00
1811, Small 8, MS-65, attractively toned. 950.00
1812, VF-20 . . . . . 35.00
AU-55 . . . . . 185.00
MS-65+, superb color 1250.00
1813, VF-30 . . . . . 42.00

HALF DOLLARS (Continued)

1815, VF-30 . . . . . 575.00
1817, EF-45 . . . . . 69.00
1819, VF-20 . . . . . 35.00
1820, VG-10 . . . . . 29.00
Fine-15 . . . . . 39.00
EF-45 . . . . . 195.00
1821, VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
1822, EF-40 . . . . . 49.00
1823, VG-10 . . . . . 19.00
VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
MS-65 . . . . . 750.00
1824, EF-45 . . . . . 59.00
1825, VF-20 . . . . . 32.00
MS-60 . . . . . 395.00
1826, EF-40 . . . . . 49.00
MS-65 . . . . . 695.00
1827, VG-10 . . . . . 19.00
EF-40 . . . . . 49.00
1827, Curl Base 2, AU-50 . . . . 129.00
1828, Curl Base, Knob 2, AU-55, Proof-like 365.00
1828, Square Base 2, Small 8's, Large Letters, MS-60. . . . . 395.00
1829, VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
MS-60, light toning 395.00
1830, VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
EF-40 . . . . . 49.00
MS-60, small reverse scratch 189.00
1832, EF-40 . . . . . 49.00
1832, Small Letters, MS-60 . . . 395.00
MS-65 . . . . . 695.00
1833, VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
EF-45 . . . . . 59.00
MS-60 . . . . . 395.00
1834, VF-20 . . . . . 35.00
VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
EF-40 . . . . . 49.00
EF-45 . . . . . 59.00
AU-55 . . . . . 145.00
MS-65 . . . . . 695.00
1836, VF-20 . . . . . 35.00
VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
1837, VF-20 . . . . . 75.00
AU-55 . . . . . 295.00
1838, Good-6 . . . . . 32.00
VF-20 . . . . . 75.00
VF-30 . . . . . 85.00
1839, Bust Type, EF-45 . . . . . 135.00
MS-65, nicely toned 2250.00
1839, No Drapery, AU-55 . . . 2250.00
1840, Reverse of '38, VF-30 . . 139.00
1840, Small Letters, MS-65 . . . 950.00
1840-O, AU-50 . . . . . 169.00
MS-65 . . . . . 1150.00
1843, Proof-65 . . . . . 4250.00
1843-O, MS-60 . . . . . 495.00
1849-O, MS-60, lightly toned 495.00
1852, Proof-65 . . . . . .12,500.00
1853, Arrows and Rays, Fine-12 . . . . . 22.00
VF-30 . . . . . 75.00
AU-55 . . . . . 625.00
1854, With Arrows, MS-65 . . 1050.00
1854-O, With Arrows, Double Date, EF-40 . . . . . 69.00
1855-O, AU-50 . . . . . 145.00
1858, VF-30 . . . . . 42.00
Proof-60 . . . . . 895.00
1859, MS-60 . . . . . 495.00
Proof-65 . . . . . 795.00
1860, Proof-60 . . . . . 525.00
1860-O, AU-55 . . . . . 169.00
1861, MS-65 . . . . . 650.00
1862, Proof-65 . . . . . 725.00
1863, MS-65 . . . . . 750.00
1863-S, EF-45 . . . . . 69.00
1865-S, MS-60 . . . . . 495.00
1869, EF-40 . . . . . 110.00
1872-CC, VG-10 . . . . . 79.00
1875-CC, MS-65 . . . . . 895.00
1876-CC, MS-60 . . . . . 425.00
1877, EF-40 . . . . . 55.00
1877-CC, EF-40 . . . . . 59.00
1879, Proof-65 . . . . . 650.00
MS-65 . . . . . 850.00
1886, MS-65 . . . . . 1100.00
1887, MS-60, Proof-like 495.00
1889, MS-65 . . . . . 850.00

BARBER HALF DOLLARS

1892, MS-60 . . . . . 425.00
1892-O, Good-6 . . . . . 65.00
MS-65 . . . . . 995.00
1893, AU-55 . . . . . 195.00
1893-O, Good-4 . . . . . 12.00
1893-S, AG-3 . . . . . 25.00
1894, VG-8 . . . . . 12.00
MS-65 . . . . . 750.00
1894-O, MS-60 . . . . . 525.00
MS-65 . . . . . 840.00
1894-S, MS-60, Proof-like 595.00
1895, Proof-55, cleaned 275.00
1895-S, Good-6 . . . . . 13.00
MS-65 . . . . . 695.00
1896-O, Good-6 . . . . . 14.00
VG-8 . . . . . 18.00
1896-S, Good-4 . . . . . 32.00
1897-O, Good-4 . . . . . 28.00
Good-6 . . . . . 32.00
1897-S, Good-6 . . . . . 35.00
1898-O, Good-6 . . . . . 8.50
1901, Proof-65 . . . . . 725.00
1901-S, Good-6 . . . . . 8.50
1904-S, Good-6 . . . . . 10.00
1906, MS-65+, super strike . . . 750.00
1910, MS-65+ 1050.00
1911, MS-65 . . . . . 695.00
1913, Good-4 . . . . . 14.00
Good-6 . . . . . 16.00
VG-8 . . . . . 19.00
1913-D, MS-60 . . . . . 550.00
1913-S, VF-20 . . . . . 39.00
1914, Good-6 . . . . . 22.00
VG-10 . . . . . 32.00
1915, VG-8 . . . . . 22.50
VG-10 . . . . . 25.00
1915-D, Fine-15 . . . . . 11.50
1915-S, MS-60 . . . . . 495.00

WALKING LIBERTY HALF DOLLARS

1916, EF-45 . . . . . 79.00
MS-65 . . . . . 350.00
1916-D, VG-10 . . . . . 10.00
AU-50 . . . . . 85.00
MS-60 . . . . . 265.00
1916-S, Good-6 . . . . . 21.00
VF-20 . . . . . 85.00
1917, AU-55 . . . . . 55.00
MS-65 . . . . . 119.00
1917-D, Reverse, Fine-15. . . . . 12.50
MS-60, nicely toned 350.00
1917-D, Obverse, VF-20 . . . . . 35.00
1917-S, Reverse, VF-20 . . . . . 12.00
1918, VF-30 . . . . . 16.00
AU-55 . . . . . 145.00
MS-60 . . . . . 325.00
1918-D, AU-50 . . . . . 159.00
1918-S, VF-20 . . . . . 14.00
MS-60 . . . . . 265.00
1919, VF-30 . . . . . 54.00
1919-D, Fine-15 . . . . . 32.00
1919-S, Fine-12 . . . . . 11.00

– Quality coins, fair prices and personal service . . . our reasons for success!

1920, AU-55 . . . . . 99.00
MS-60 . . . . . 325.00
1920-S, VF-20 . . . . . 24.00
1921, AG-3 . . . . . 22.00
Good-6 . . . . . 36.00
VG-8 . . . . . 49.00
Fine-12 . . . . . 79.00
MS-60 . . . . . 1295.00
1921-D, VG-10 . . . . . 89.00
Fine-12 . . . . . 110.00
Fine-15 . . . . . 125.00
VF-30 . . . . . 249.00
MS-65, sharp 1900.00
1921-S, Good-6 . . . . . 11.00
VG-8 . . . . . 17.00
Fine-12 . . . . . 32.00
Fine-15 . . . . . 36.00
1923-S, VF-20 . . . . . 32.00
AU-50 . . . . . 210.00
1927-S, VF-20 . . . . . 12.50
MS-60 . . . . . 495.00
1928-S, VF-20 . . . . . 12.50
1929-D, AU-55 . . . . . 110.00
MS-65 . . . . . 450.00
1929-S, VF-20 . . . . . 10.00
MS-60 . . . . . 310.00
1933-S, AU-55 . . . . . 175.00
1934, MS-65 . . . . . 45.00
1934-D, VF-30 . . . . . 7.50
EF-45 . . . . . 17.00
MS-65 . . . . . 225.00
1934-S, EF-45 . . . . . 25.00
MS-65 . . . . . 450.00
1935, AU-55 . . . . . 9.00
MS-60 . . . . . 29.00
MS-65 . . . . . 33.00
1935-D, VF-30 . . . . . 7.50
MS-65 . . . . . 235.00
1935-S, EF-40 . . . . . 18.00
MS-65 . . . . . 310.00
1936, MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1936-D, MS-65 . . . . . 139.00
1936-S, MS-65 . . . . . 219.00
1937, AU-55 . . . . . 9.00
MS-65 . . . . . 33.00
1937-D, VF-30 . . . . . 8.50
MS-65 . . . . . 245.00
1937-S, EF-45 . . . . . 13.50
MS-65 . . . . . 225.00

1938, AU-50 . . . . . 16.50
MS-60 . . . . . 65.00
MS-65 . . . . . 79.00
1938-D, VG-10 . . . . . 27.00
Fine-12 . . . . . 29.00
Fine-15 . . . . . 32.00
VF-20 . . . . . 37.50
MS-60 . . . . . 415.00
MS-65 . . . . . 450.00
1939, MS-65 . . . . . 49.00
1939-D, MS-60 . . . . . 42.00
MS-65 . . . . . 49.00
1939-S, AU-50 . . . . . 27.50
MS-65 . . . . . 95.00
1940, MS-60 . . . . . 28.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1940-S, MS-60 . . . . . 42.50
MS-65 . . . . . 52.00
1941, MS-60 . . . . . 16.00
MS-65 . . . . . 20.00
1941-D, MS-60 . . . . . 32.00
MS-65 . . . . . 39.00
1941-S, AU-55 . . . . . 24.00
MS-60 . . . . . 79.00
MS-65 . . . . . 95.00
1942, MS-65 . . . . . 20.00
1942-D, MS-60 . . . . . 25.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1942-S, MS-60 . . . . . 46.00
MS-65 . . . . . 55.00
1943, MS-60 . . . . . 16.00
MS-65 . . . . . 20.00
1943-D, MS-60 . . . . . 39.00
MS-65 . . . . . 45.00
1943-S, MS-60 . . . . . 27.00
MS-65 . . . . . 34.00
1944, MS-60 . . . . . 16.00
MS-65 . . . . . 20.00
1944-D, MS-65 . . . . . 27.50
1944-S, MS-60 . . . . . 32.00
MS-65 . . . . . 39.00
1945, MS-60 . . . . . 16.00
MS-65 . . . . . 20.00
1945-D, MS-60 . . . . . 23.00
MS-65 . . . . . 27.50
1945-S, MS-60 . . . . . 25.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1946, MS-65 . . . . . 26.00
1946-D, MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1946-S, MS-60 . . . . . 25.00
MS-65 . . . . . 32.00
1947, MS-60 . . . . . 25.00
MS-65 . . . . . 29.00
1947-D, MS-60 . . . . . 25.00

QUARTER EAGLES ($2½ Gold)

1805, AU-50 . . . . . 6000.00
1807, AU-50 . . . . . 4250.00
1821, AU-55 . . . . . 9500.00
1827, EF-45 . . . . . 7500.00
1834, No Motto, AU-55 . . . . . 395.00
1835, EF-45 . . . . . 275.00
1836, VF-30 . . . . . 179.00
MS-60 . . . . . 995.00
1839-C, EF-45 . . . . . 950.00
1839-D, VF-30 . . . . . 550.00
1839-O, EF-45 . . . . . 950.00
1840-C, EF-45 . . . . . 750.00
1843-D, VF-30 . . . . . 350.00
1843-O, EF-40 . . . . . 225.00
1843-O, Small Date, Crosslet 4, VF-20 . . . . . 119.00
EF-40 . . . . . 225.00
1844, VF-30 . . . . . 350.00
1845-O, EF-40 . . . . . 975.00
1847-C, AU-50 . . . . . 675.00
1847-O, AU-50 . . . . . 219.00
1850-O, VF-30 . . . . . 129.00
1852, AU-50 . . . . . 119.00
1852-O, VF-30 . . . . . 159.00
EF-40 . . . . . 225.00
1854-O, EF-45 . . . . . 225.00
1856, AU-55 . . . . . 175.00
1859, AU-50 . . . . . 195.00
1861, AU-55 . . . . . 159.00
MS-65 . . . . . 359.00
1862, 2 Over 1, EF-40 . . . . . 2900.00
1865-S, VF-20 . . . . . 139.00
1869-S, VF-20 . . . . . 139.00
1870, EF-45 . . . . . 325.00
1875, Proof-65 . . . . . 27,500.00

– Paramount's Rare Coin Department is the leader in the industry. Try us and find out why thousands of customers in all 50 states and dozens of foreign countries rely on Paramount for all their rare coin needs.

1878, MS-60 . . . . . 185.00
1883, Proof-65 . . . . . 4500.00
1886, MS-65 . . . . . 1200.00
1887, Proof-65 . . . . . 2400.00
1895, Proof-65 . . . . . 2150.00
1898, MS-60 . . . . . 185.00
MS-65 . . . . . 249.00
1900, MS-65 . . . . . 195.00
1902, MS-65 . . . . . 149.00
1903, MS-65 . . . . . 195.00
1904, MS-60 . . . . . 149.00
MS-65 . . . . . 195.00
1905, MS-65 . . . . . 195.00
1906, MS-65 . . . . . 149.00
1907, MS-65 . . . . . 195.00

INDIAN HEAD QUARTER EAGLES

1908, MS-65 . . . . . 225.00
1911, AU-55 . . . . . 105.00
1911-D, MS-65 . . . . . 2450.00
1912, EF-45 . . . . . 95.00
1915, AU-55 . . . . . 105.00
1925-D, MS-65 . . . . . 175.00
1926, MS-60 . . . . . 139.00
MS-65 . . . . . 175.00
1927, MS-60 . . . . . 139.00
MS-65 . . . . . 175.00
1928, MS-65 . . . . . 175.00
1929, MS-60 . . . . . 139.00

HALF EAGLES ($5 Gold)

1803, 3 Over 2, EF-45 . . . . . 1450.00
MS-60 . . . . . 2750.00
1805, MS-65 . . . . . 3950.00
1807, Bust Right, AU-50 . . . 1750.00
1807, Early Type, AU-55 . . . 1950.00
1810, Small Date, Large 5, EF-40 . . . . . 1250.00
1813, EF-45 . . . . . 1900.00
MS-60 . . . . . 3500.00
1814, 4 Over 3, MS-65 . . . . . 9500.00
1818, 5D Over 50, MS-65 . . . 8500.00
1823, MS-65 . . . . . 15,000.00
1826, MS-65 . . . . . 32,500.00
1831, Large 5D, MS-60 . . . . 14,500.00
1832, 13 Stars, Square Base 2, MS-60 . . . . . 12,500.00
1834, No Motto, Plain 4, AU-50, Proof-like 375.00
1834, No Motto, Crosslet 4, VF-20 . . . . . 295.00
1834, Classic, VF-20 . . . . . 179.00
1834, Classic, Plain 4, VF-30 . . . . . 195.00
EF-40 . . . . . 250.00
1835, VF-30 . . . . . 195.00
1836, VF-20 . . . . . 179.00
VF-30 . . . . . 195.00
EF-40 . . . . . 250.00
1838, VF-20 . . . . . 179.00
VF-30 . . . . . 195.00
1838-D, MS-60 . . . . . 4500.00
1839-D, EF-40 . . . . . 850.00
1840-O, VF-30 . . . . . 269.00
EF-40 . . . . . 495.00
1843-D, VF-20 . . . . . 350.00
VF-30 . . . . . 425.00
EF-45 . . . . . 625.00
1843-O, VF-20 . . . . . 325.00
1844-D, VF-30 . . . . . 425.00
1844-O, VF-20 . . . . . 225.00
VF-30 . . . . . 395.00
EF-40 . . . . . 445.00
1845-D, AU-50 . . . . . 750.00
1846-D, AU-50 . . . . . 750.00
1846-O, EF-45 . . . . . 495.00
1847, AU-50 . . . . . 175.00
1847-C, VF-30 . . . . . 425.00
1847-D, VF-30 . . . . . 425.00
1847-O, VF-20 . . . . . 295.00
1848-C, VF-20 . . . . . 350.00
EF-45 . . . . . 625.00
1848-D, VF-30 . . . . . 425.00
1849-C, VF-20 . . . . . 350.00
EF-45 . . . . . 625.00

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Mint State 65 — A Choice Brilliant Uncirculated dollar. A premium quality coin with significantly fewer bagmarks than the average uncirculated MS-60 dollar. The condition some dealers call "Gem BU".

Q. Somewhere I read about two varieties in the $3 gold coin series. I don't mean open and closed 3's, but two distinct varieties. Yet I can't find a reference to the varieties in my library. Can you help?

Joseph J. L.
N.Y.C.

A. The 1854 $3 gold coin may be considered a distinct variety. The word DOLLARS on the reverse is much smaller, in fact almost half the size, than on the issues in this series from 1855 to 1889. The small letters in the word DOLLARS is found on the Philadelphia, New Orleans and Dahlonega 1854 $3 gold coins.

Compare the word DOLLARS on these two coins. Notice the small lettering on the 1854 and the larger letters on the 1855. All dates and mints after 1854 exhibit the large letters variety. The $3 gold piece was designed by James B. Longacre.

Q. Why can't I find a 1970 half dollar for my Kennedy 50¢ collection?

Mrs. S. M.
Columbus, Ohio

A. No 1970 half dollars were produced for circulation purposes. The Denver Mint produced 2,150,000 1970 half dollars for use in 1970 Mint sets and the San Francisco Mint produced 2.6 million 1970 half dollars for use in 1970 Proof sets. But not one was released through normal banking channels for circulation.

The maple leaf after the date indicates this coin was made during 1948 but before the 1948 dies arrived. The obverse features King George VI.

Q. My grandfather gave me a 1947 Canadian silver dollar with a dot next to the date. He said it was valuable and that I should find out what the dot means. What does it mean and what is it worth?

Mr. R. L. G.
Quebec

A. The "dot" next to the date on your 1947 silver dollar is really a maple leaf. The maple leaf was added to the date in late 1947 when the dies for 1948 silver dollars were late in coming. A mintage of 21,135 1947 maple leaf silver dollars were struck until the 1948 dies arrived. Your coin's value depends on how worn it is, but heavily circulated coins of this date are worth $50, while choice Mint condition 1947 maple leaf silver dollars are worth $500 and up.

If you have any questions about coins, stamps or paper money, please address them to:

Charles Surasky, Editor
Paramount Journal
1 Paramount Plaza
Englewood, Ohio 45322

We will answer as many questions as possible in this column and all questions received will be answered.

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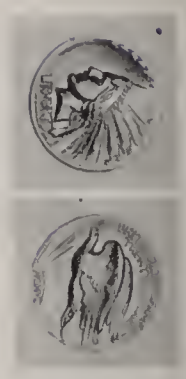

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